BIG COMICS SPECIAL

# 京極夏彦 百鬼夜行録

第九集

Yukinobu Hoshino Presents

星野之宣

BIG COMICS SPECIAL

THE CASE RECORDS OF PROFESSOR MUNAKATA

# 宗像教授異考録

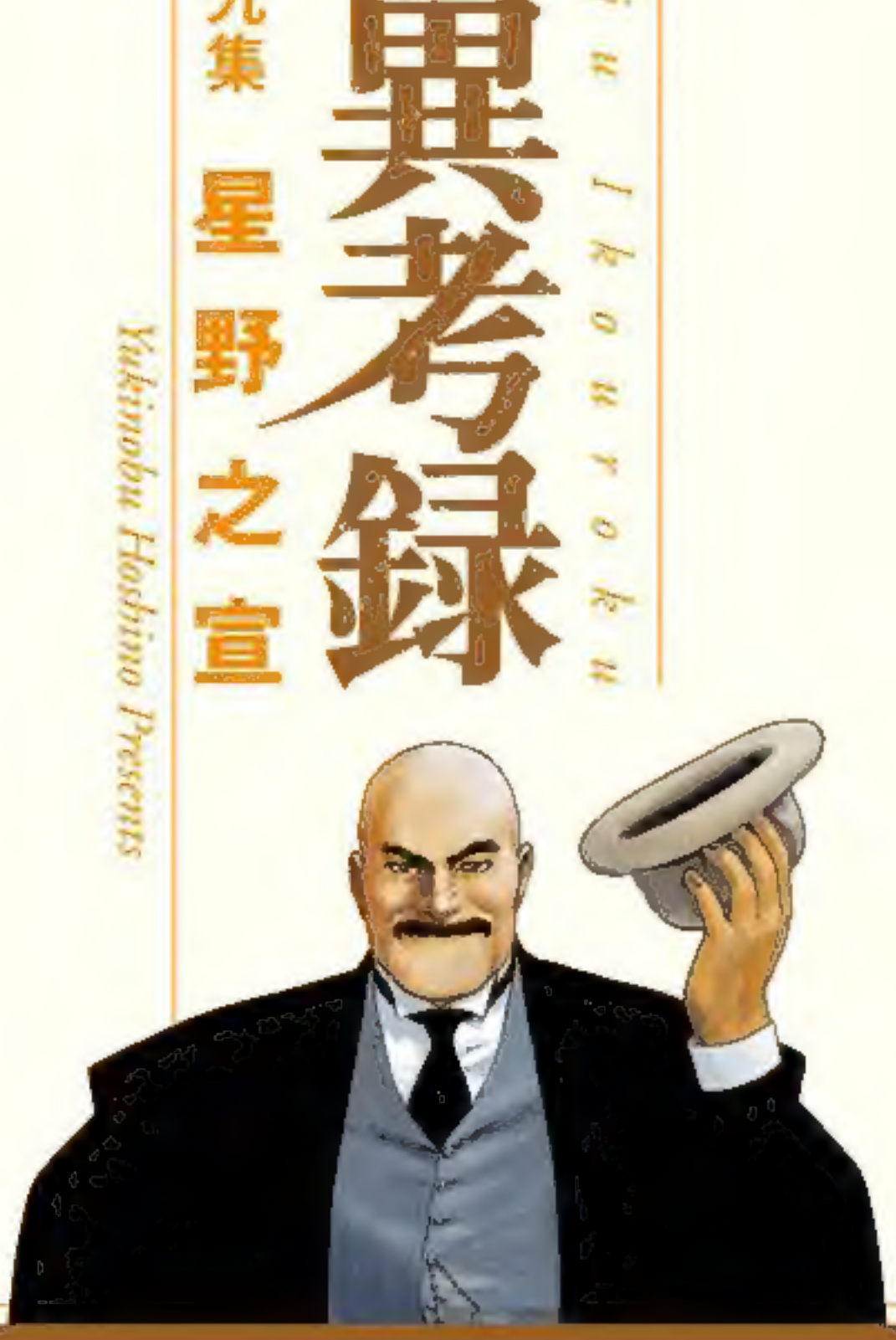
Munakata Kyoujin Ikouroku

Collection 9

第九集

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Yukinobu Hoshino Presents



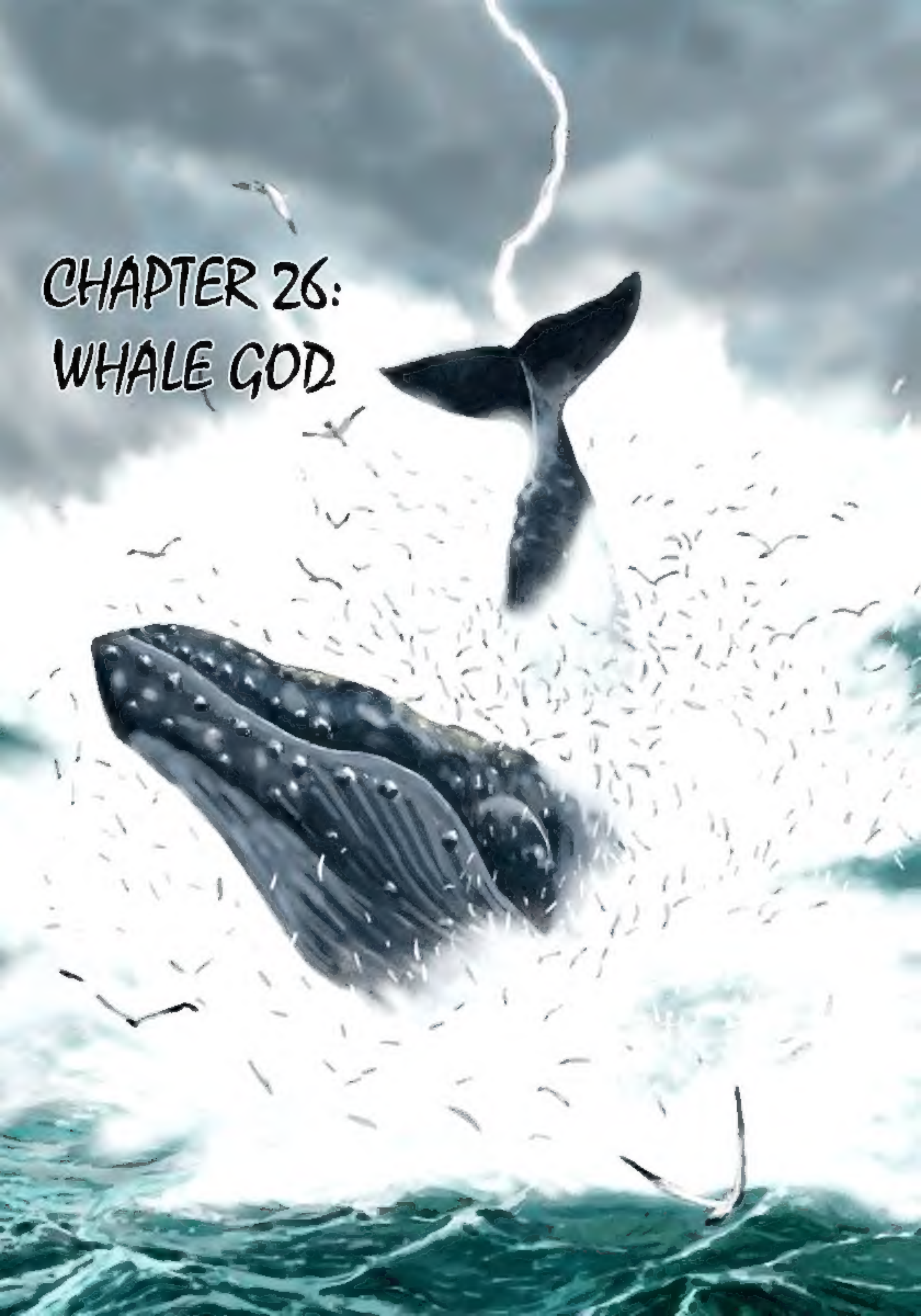
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# CHAPTER 26:
# WHALE GOD



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Gojinjo Drumming,
Ishikawa Prefecture


Minazuki Amamehagi,
Ishikawa prefecture


Amahage,
Yamagata Prefecture


Suneka,
Iwate Prefecture


Oga Namahage,
Akita Prefecture

ROOO AAAA AAR!! ROOO AAAA AAR!!

ROO AAA AAR RRR !!

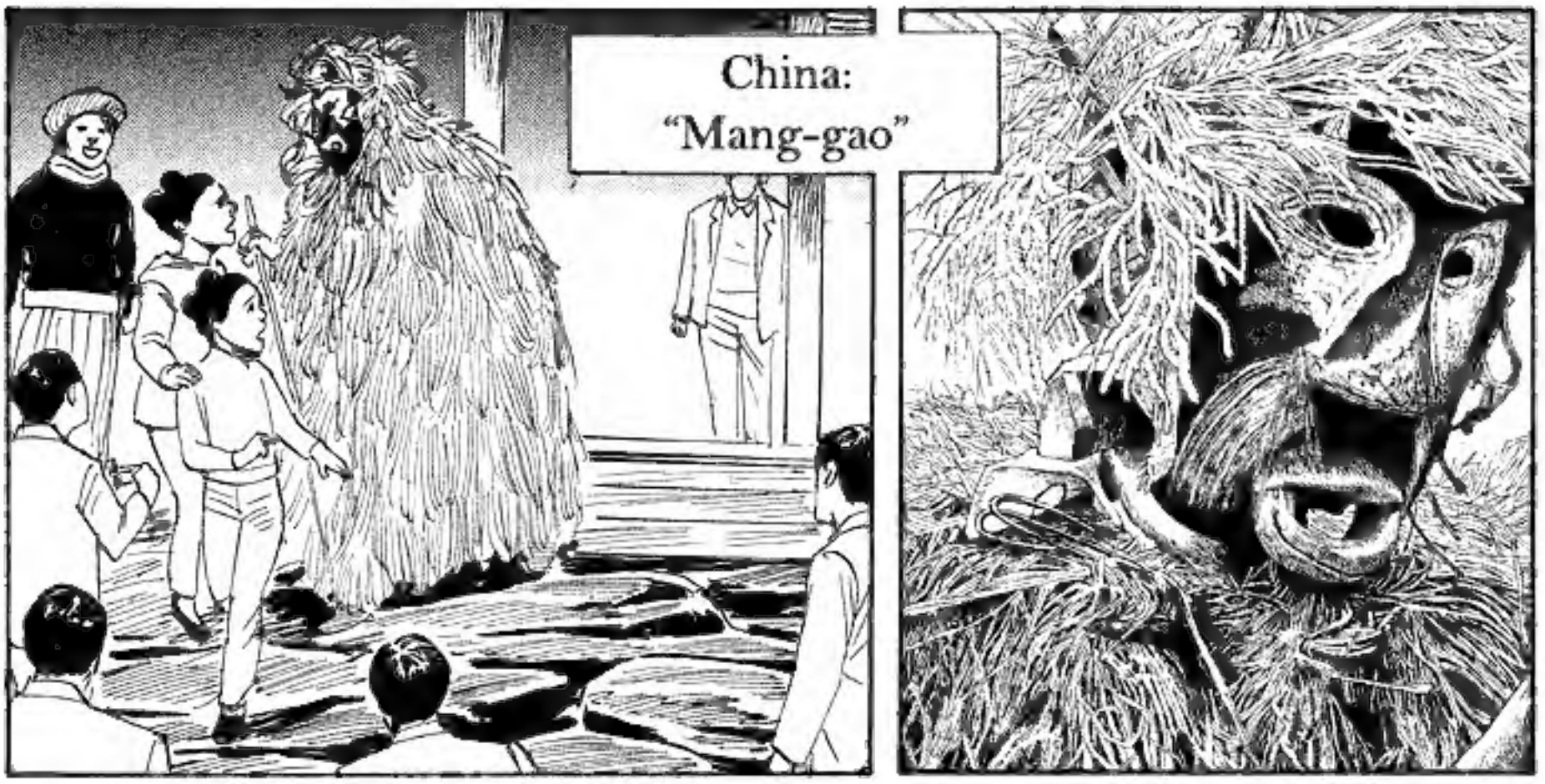
ARE THERE ANY IDLE WIVES HERE !?

ARE THERE ANY CRYING CHIL-DREN HERE!?

4

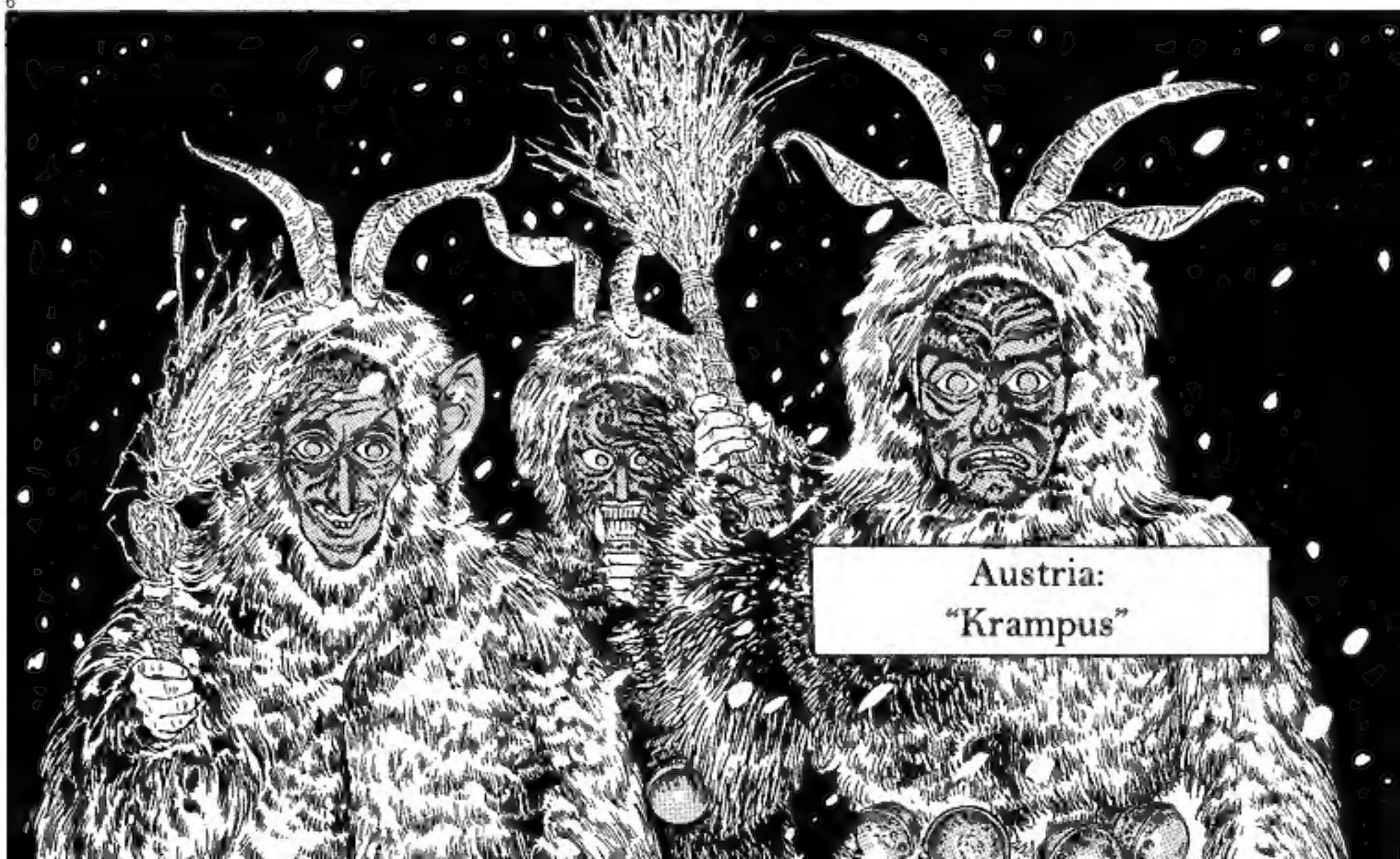
Thank ya...


I'm sure you've seen this on TV.
Every year, between New Year's Eve and New Year's, masked "Visiting Gods", or "Marebito", visit every household...
There are some, like the "Mayun-ganashi" of Okinawa, that hide their faces with rice hats in place of masks.
Most of them have their bodies covered in straw, and wear straw raincoats.
What's interesting is that similar customs exist in China, and even Europe.


China:
"Mang-gao"


Switzerland:
"Silvesterklaus"



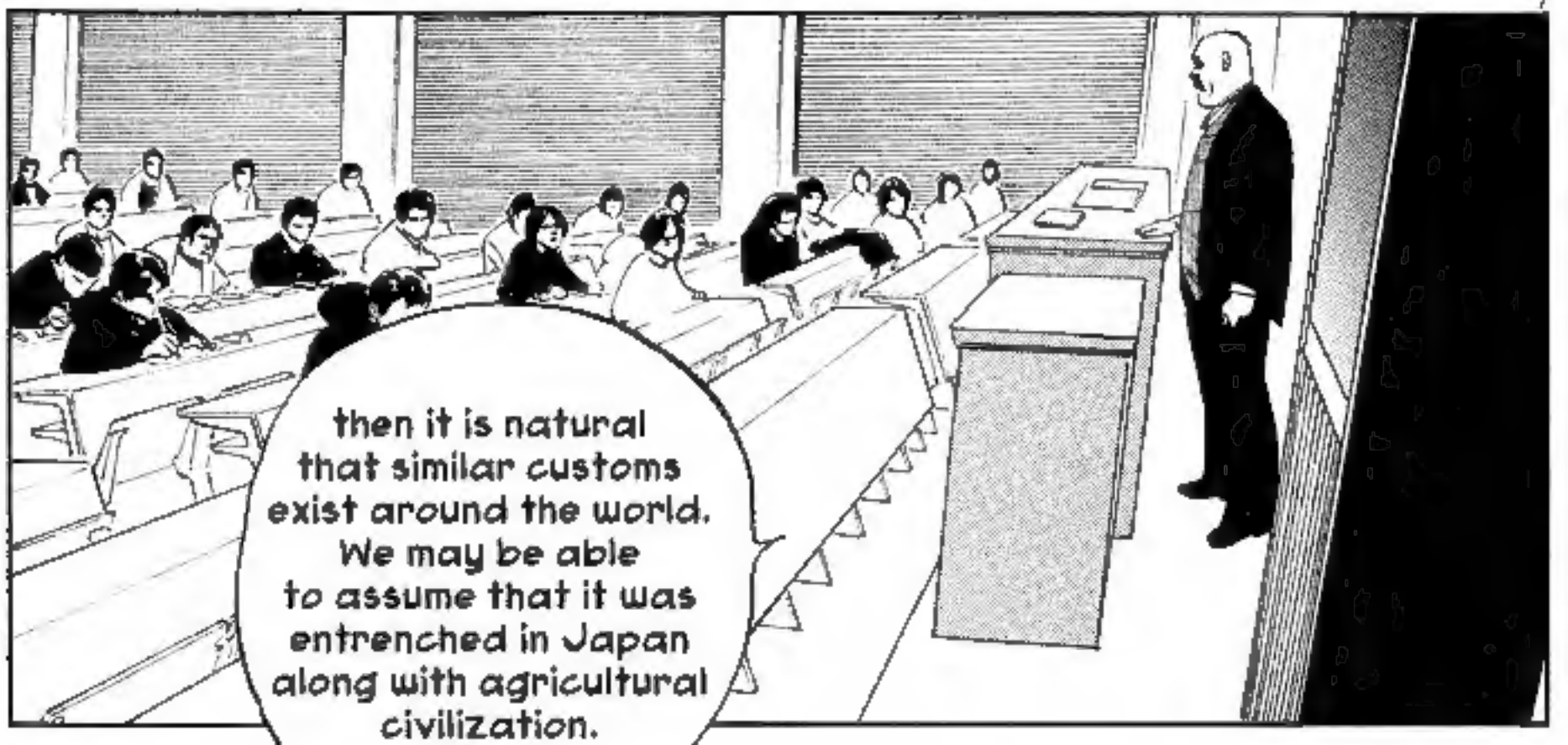

Austria:
"Krampus"


Bulgaria:
"Kukeri"

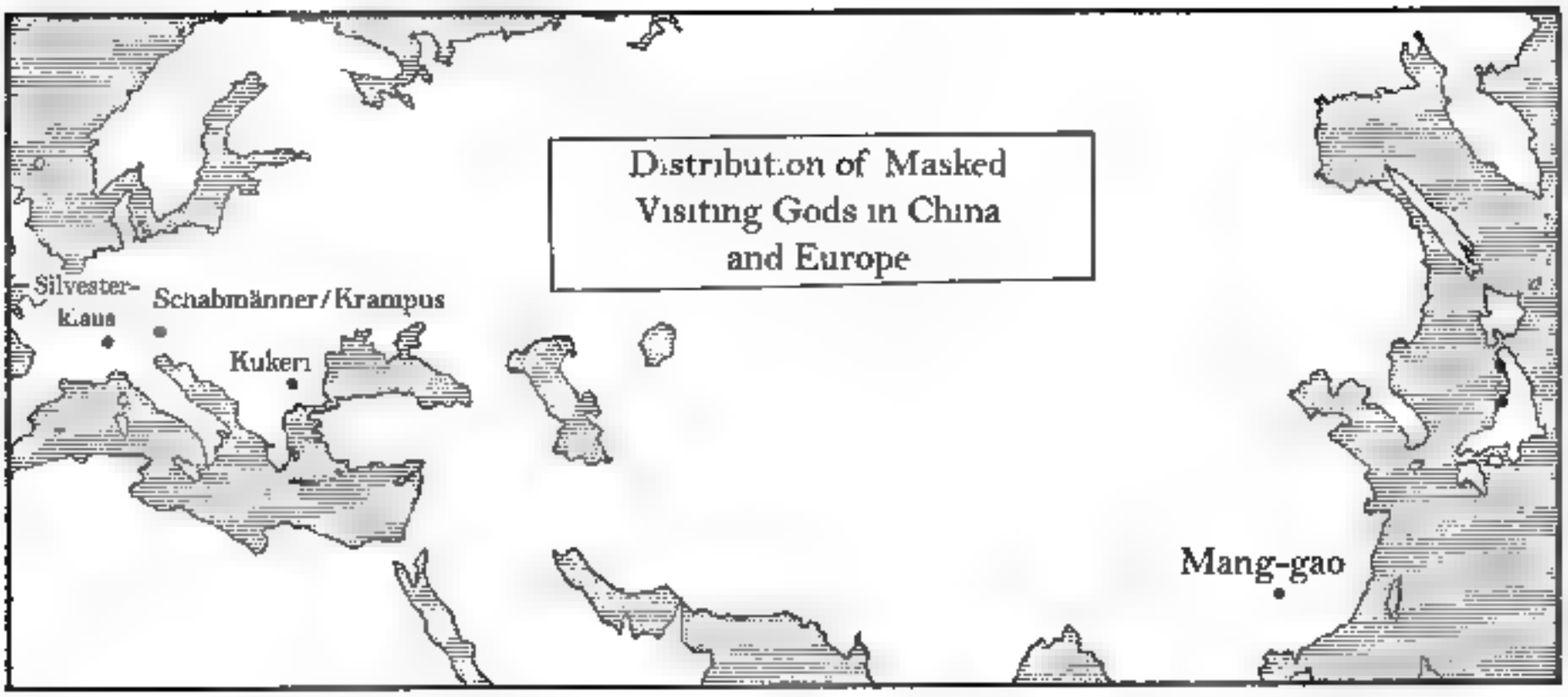

It's likely that they cover themselves in straw or grass as a symbol of the vitality of plants.
Austria:
"Schabmänner"


If we consider these Visiting Gods to be grain spirits... that is, spirits of the harvest, who come on New Year's to promise a bountiful crop that year...

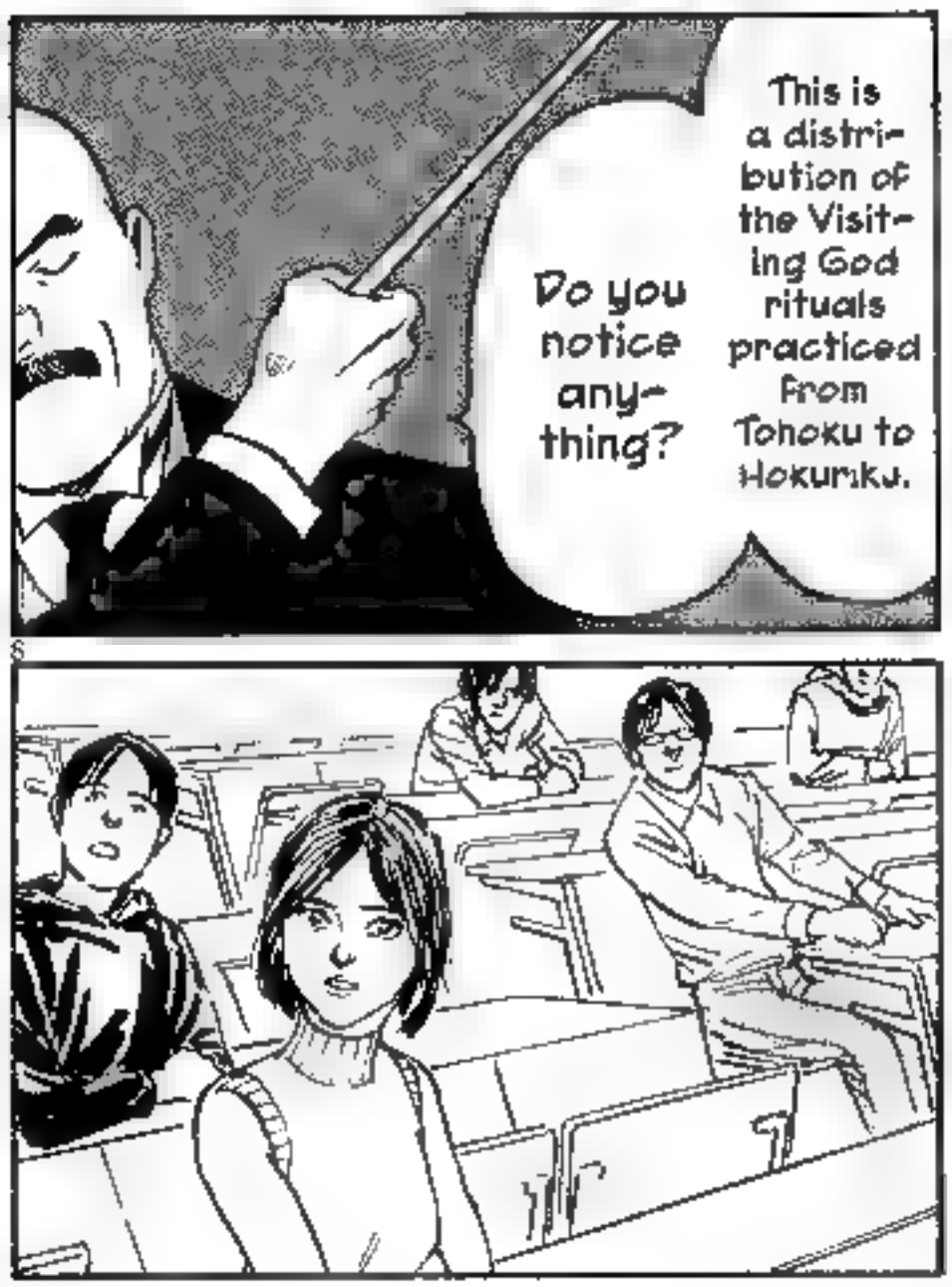
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then it is natural that similar customs exist around the world. We may be able to assume that it was entrenched in Japan along with agricultural civilization.

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Distribution of Masked Visiting Gods in China and Europe
Silvester-Klaus
Schabmänner/Krampus
Kukeri
Mang-gao


There is one thing that separates Japan from the rest of the world in this regard.
How-ever...


Do you notice any-thing?
This is a distri-bution of the Visit-ing God rituals practiced from Tohoku to Hokuriku.


Distribution of Major Masked Visiting Gods in Tohoku and Hokuriku


Pre-
cisely!
but in Japan, they're near the shore!
All of the ones overseas are inland...


But it's a mystery as to why Japan is the only place where these legends remain on the coast.
It should be more fitting to welcome the grain spirits in inland farm villages, just like on the continent.




but were originally Visiting Gods from the sea!
It could be that they take on the appearance of grain spirits...

This is a late Jomon mask excavated from Mawaki Ruins in Ishikawa Prefecture, near the ocean.



.....



10

While there was agriculture during the Jomon period, it was most likely an unrelated god that came from the sea.

I've often thought that this mask from thousands of years ago may be a prototype of the Namahage mask.

Huuuuuuuuuuh?

But what was this Visiting God from the sea...?

Your assignment is to write a paper on this theme!

The deadline will be in two weeks... Those of you close to failing, this could be your chance, depending on your score.

The truth is, this is a problem I've been turning over in my head for years, but in all my busyness I've never come to an answer.

I'd be grateful to gather some original ideas that may become a hint for me.

You... What was your name again?

.....

It sounds like you've been listening intently. I'm looking forward to your paper.

Oh... It's Minami Midori...

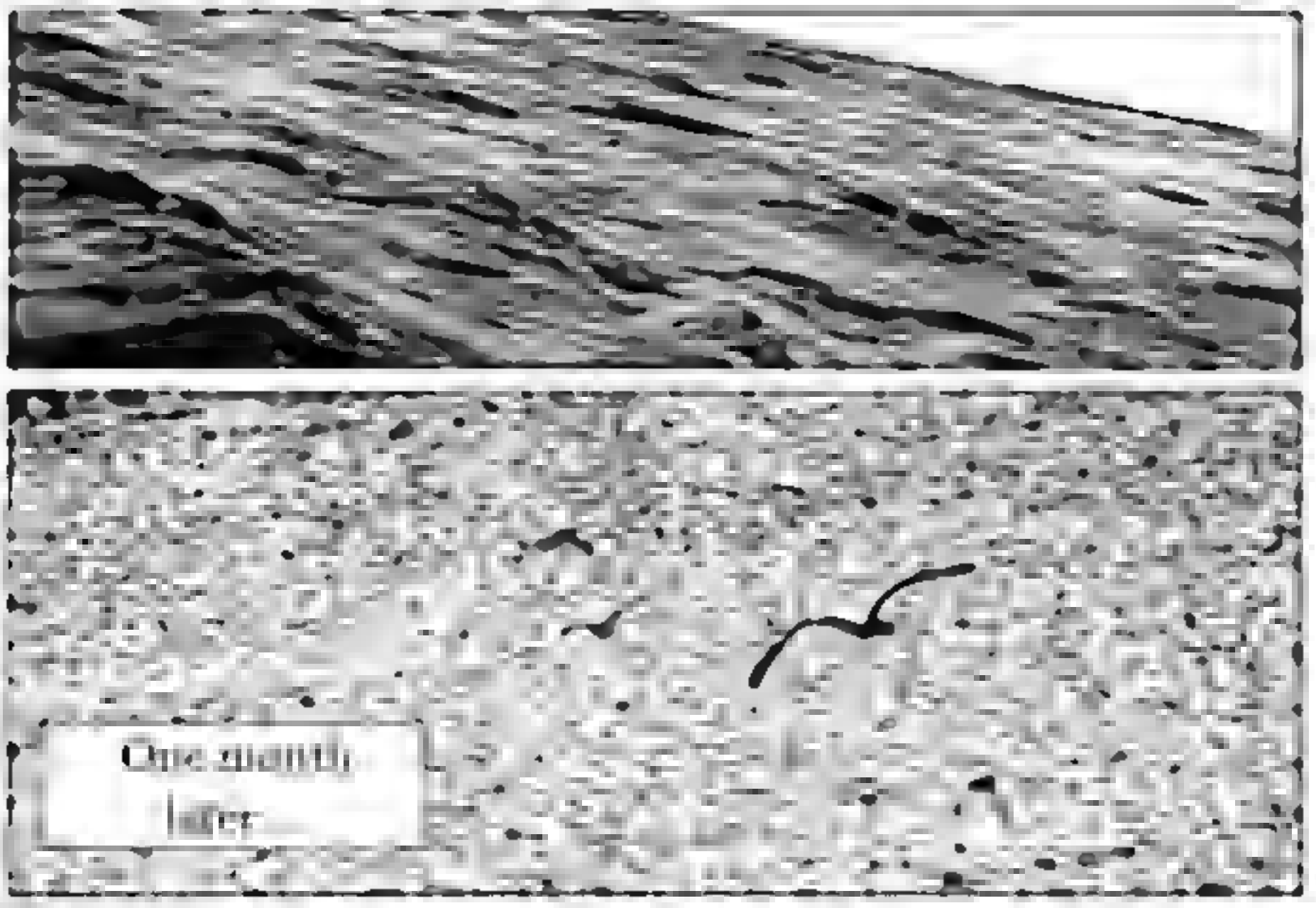

Y...Yes.



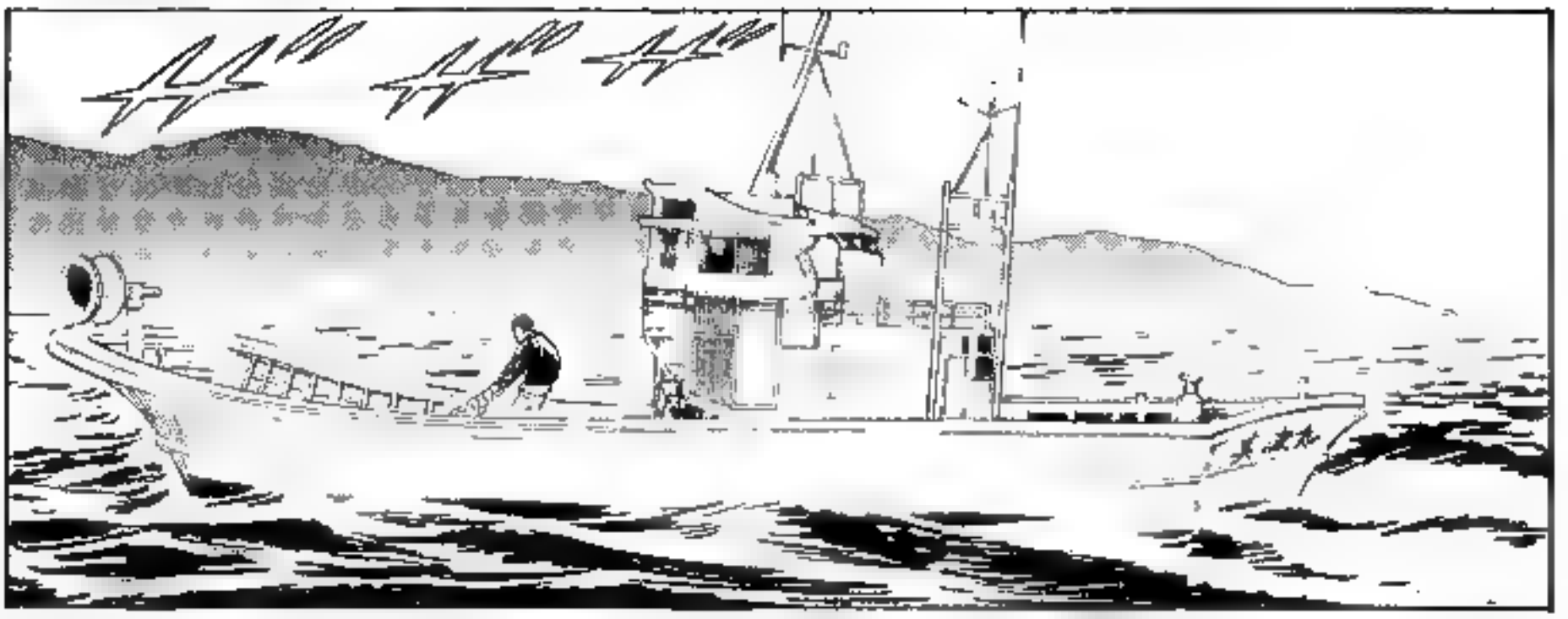


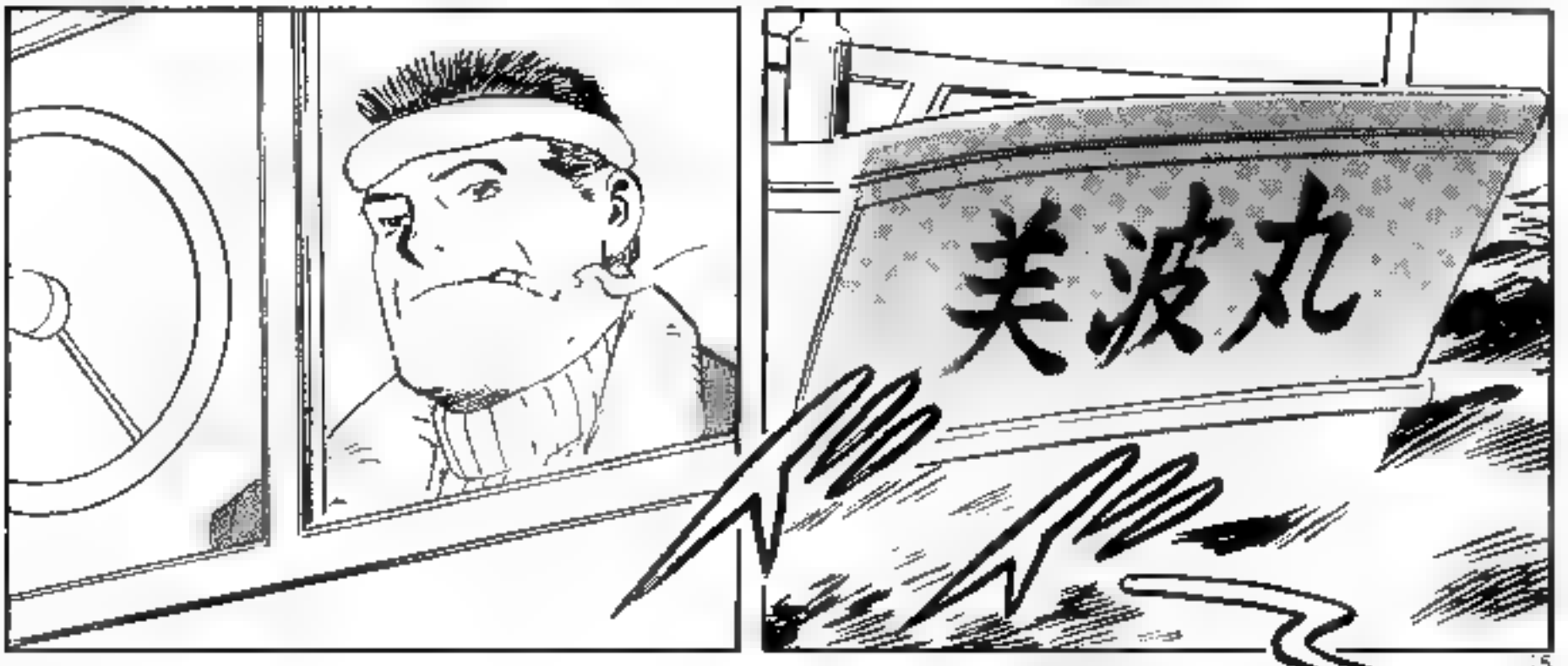



"There was a Visiting God From the sea in my hometown, too..."

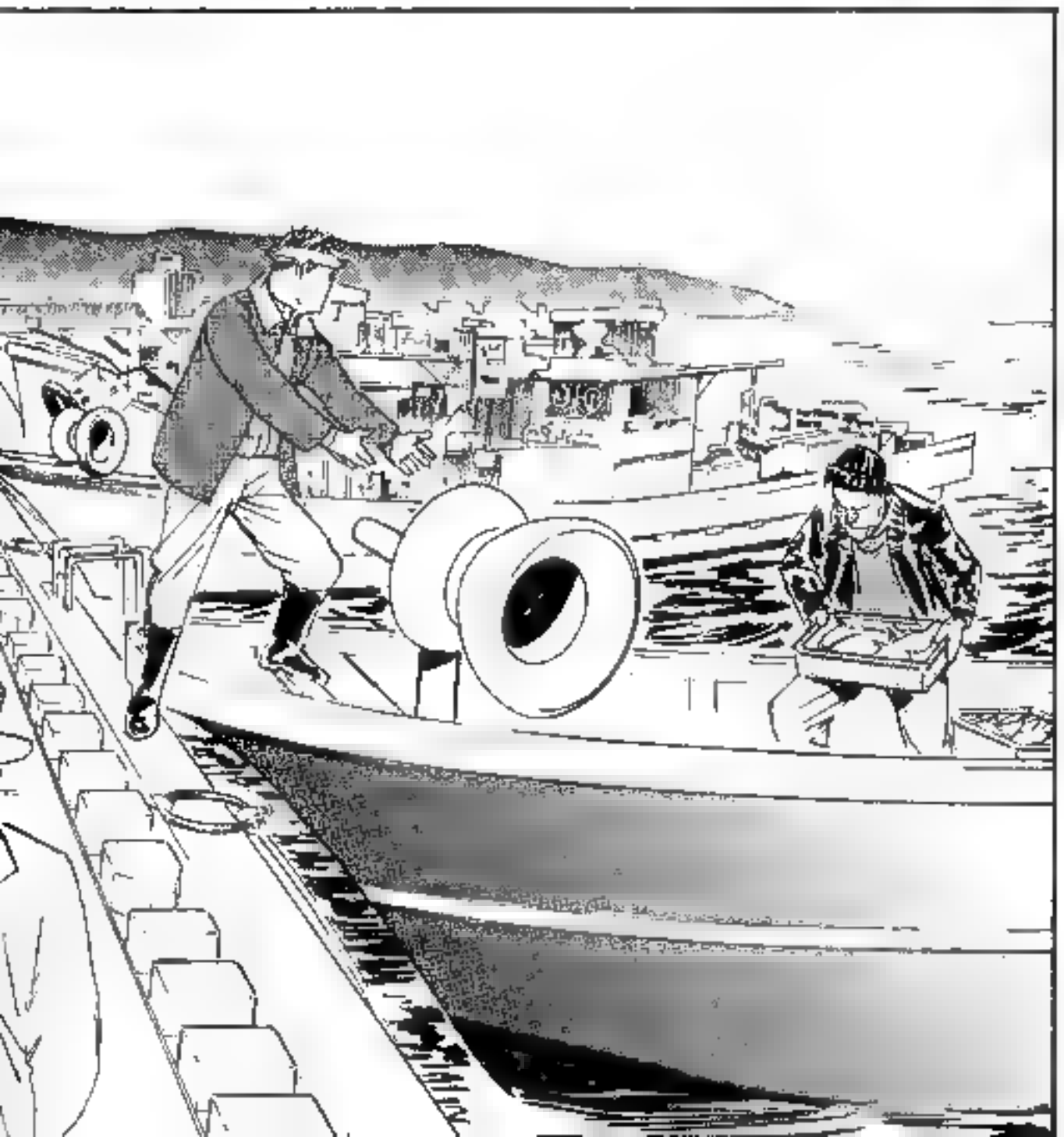



Ebisuhama Town, Fugeshi
District, Ishikawa Prefecture






SIGN:
MINA-
MIMARU

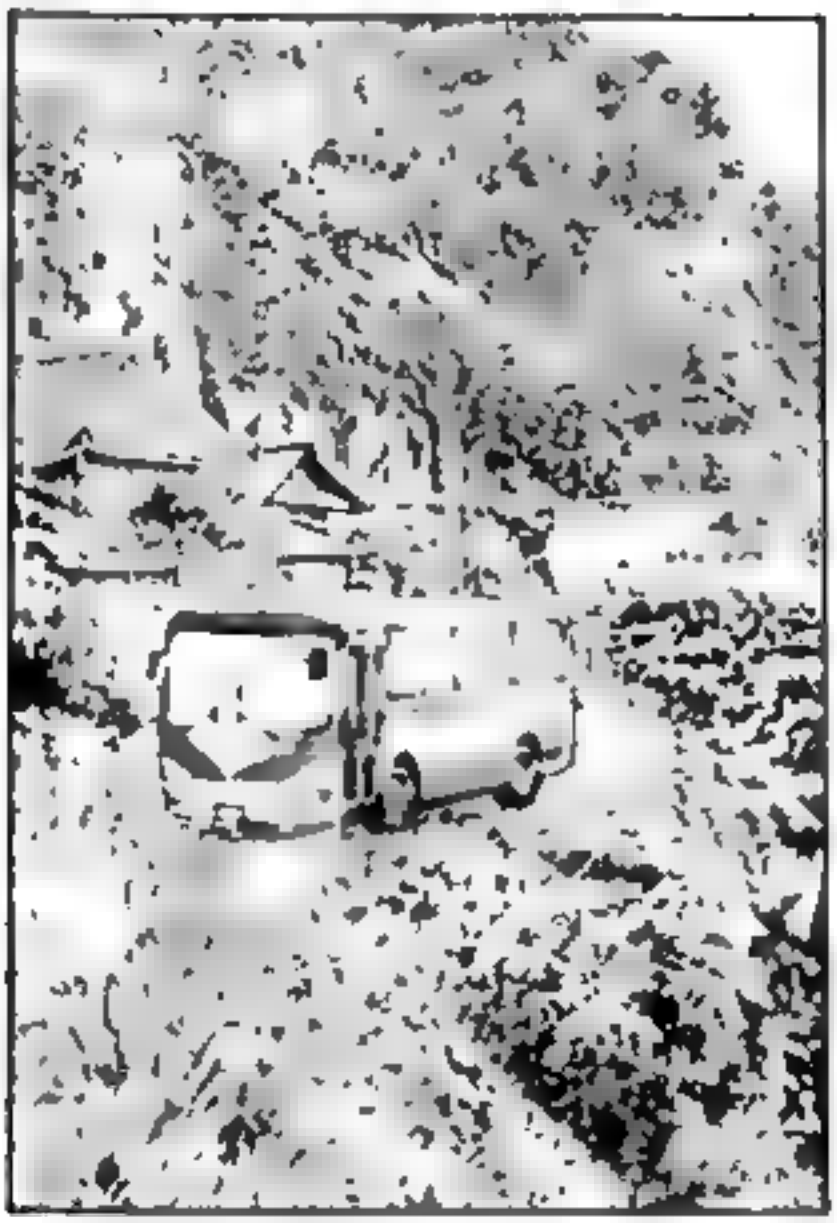




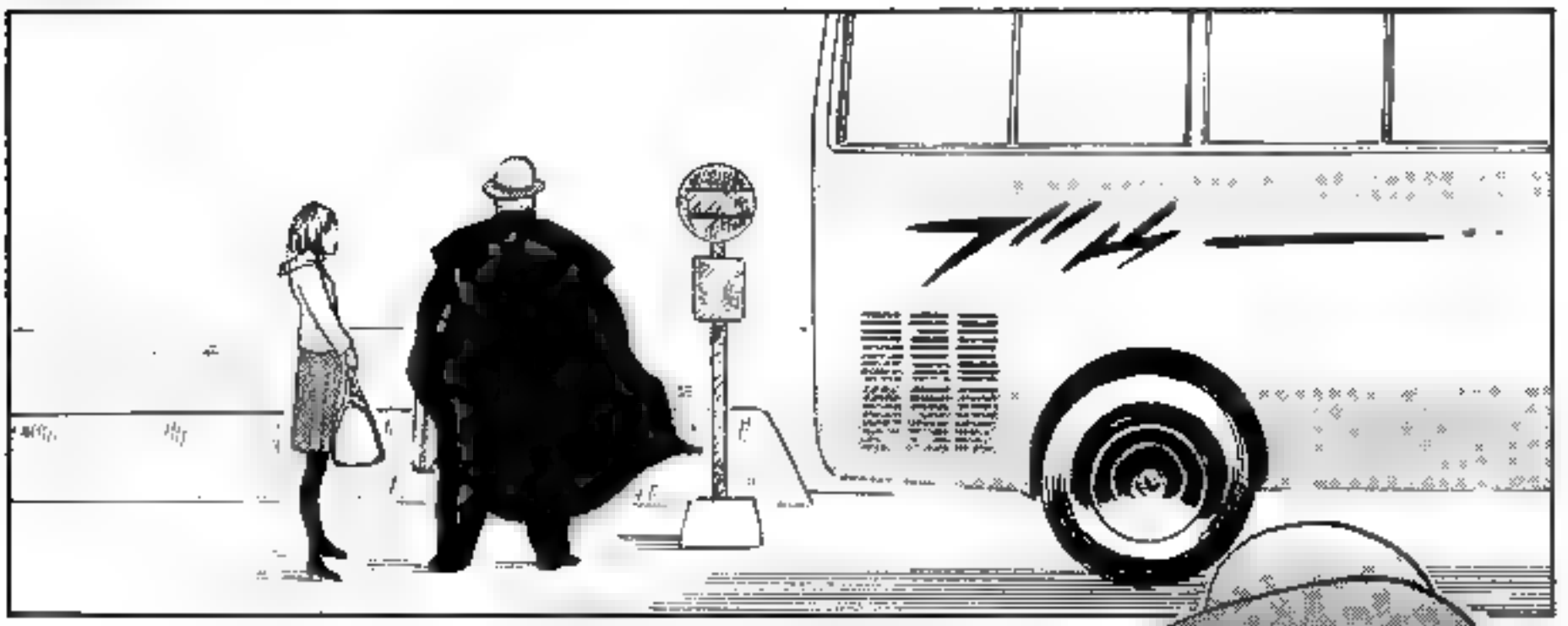








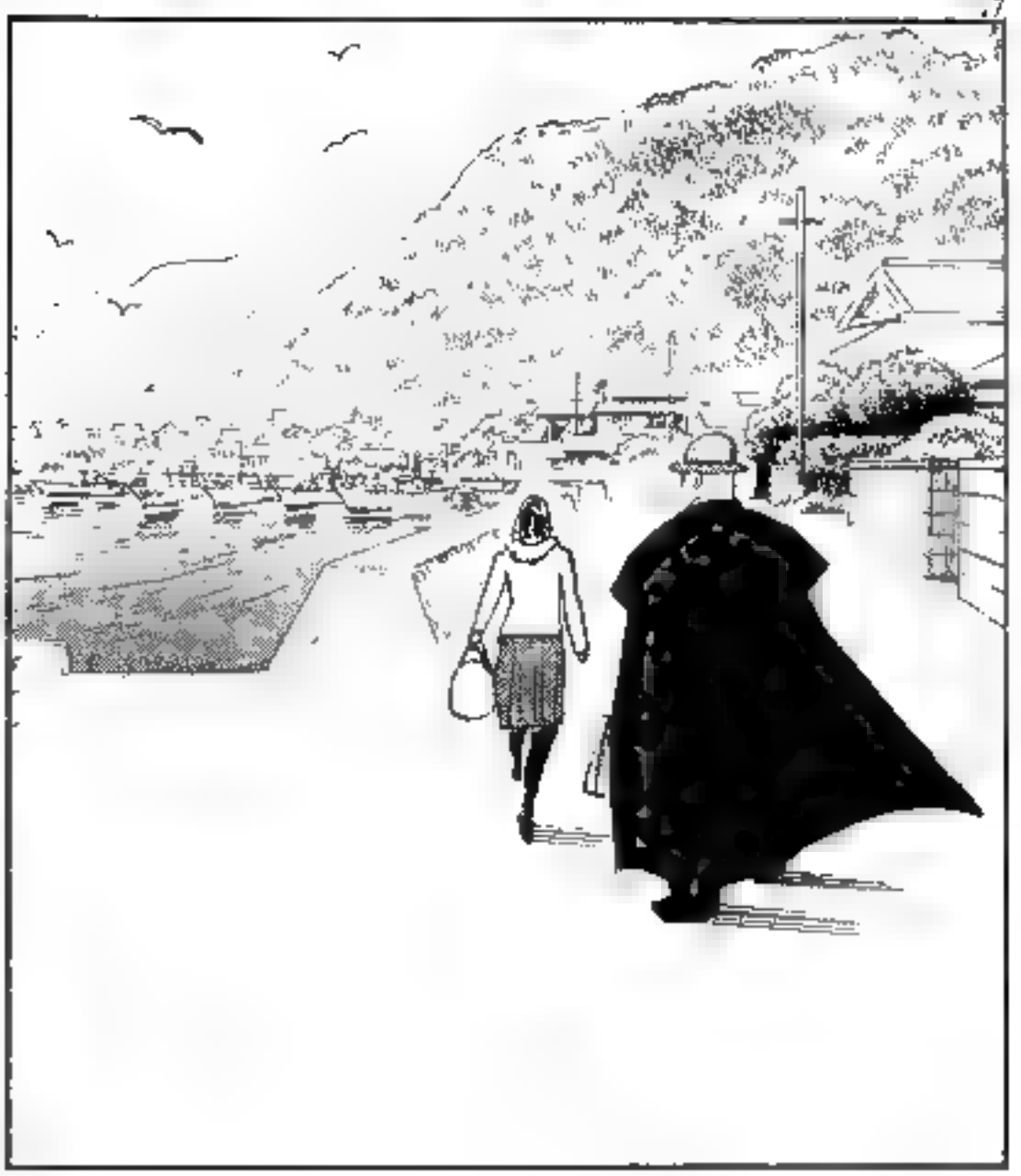




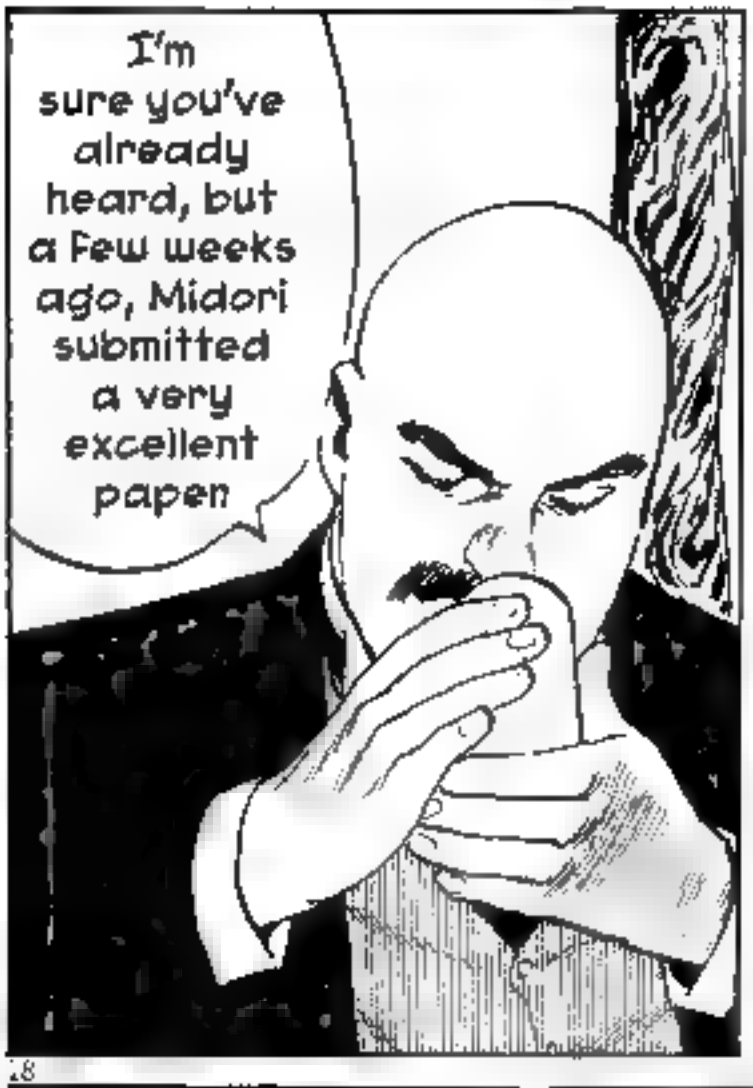

This way...





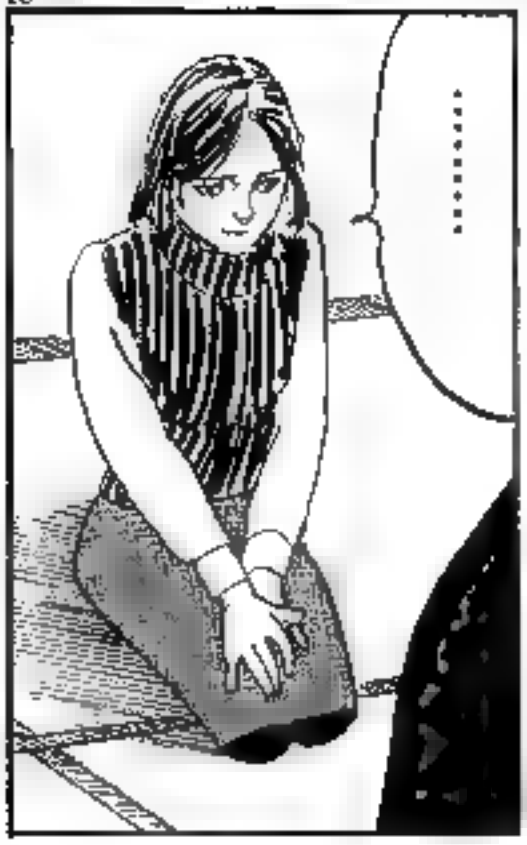


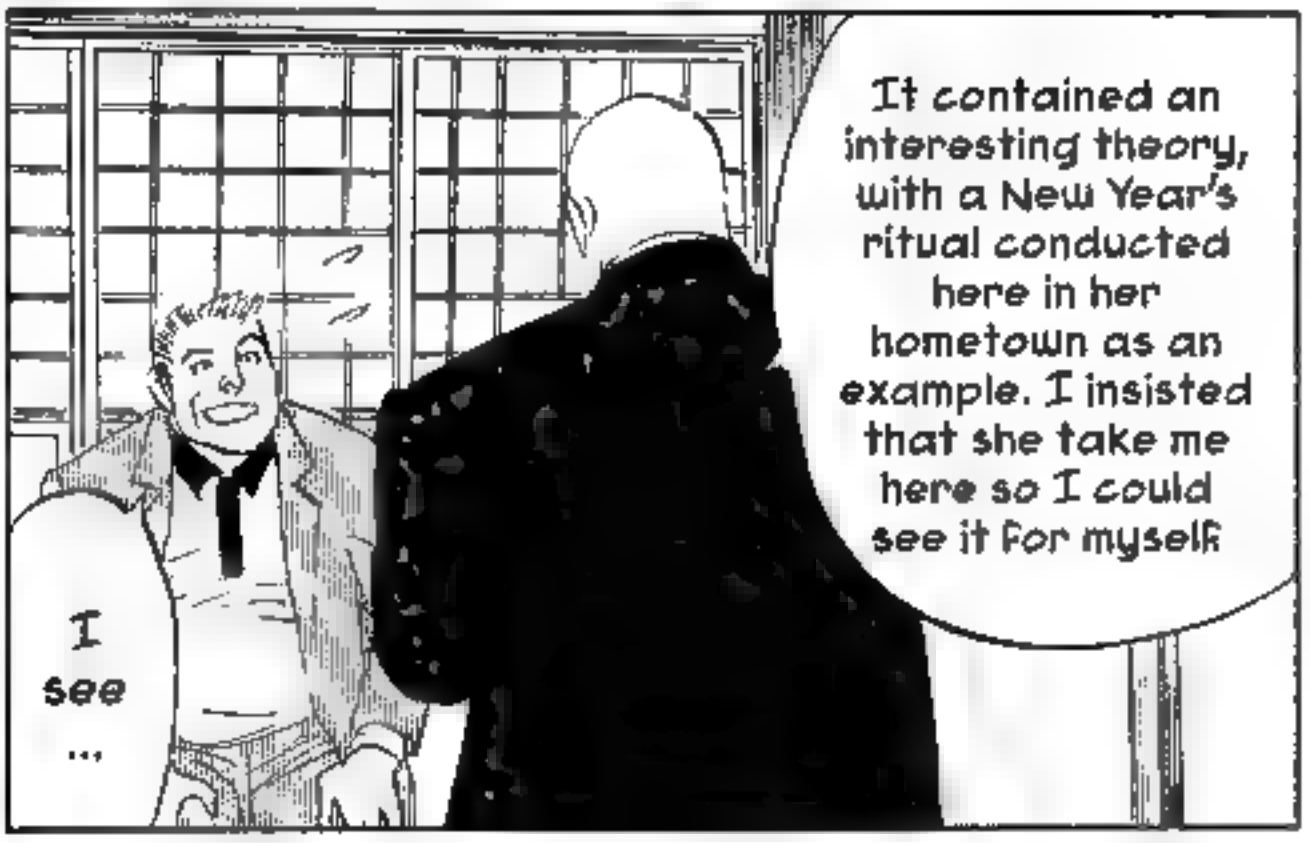

Are you sure this is alright? I feel awful for imposing on such a busy time as New Year's.


I'm sure you've already heard, but a few weeks ago, Midori submitted a very excellent paper


Oh, don't mention it! We're honored to have one of Midori's university professors stay here...
Please, don't pay me any mind.



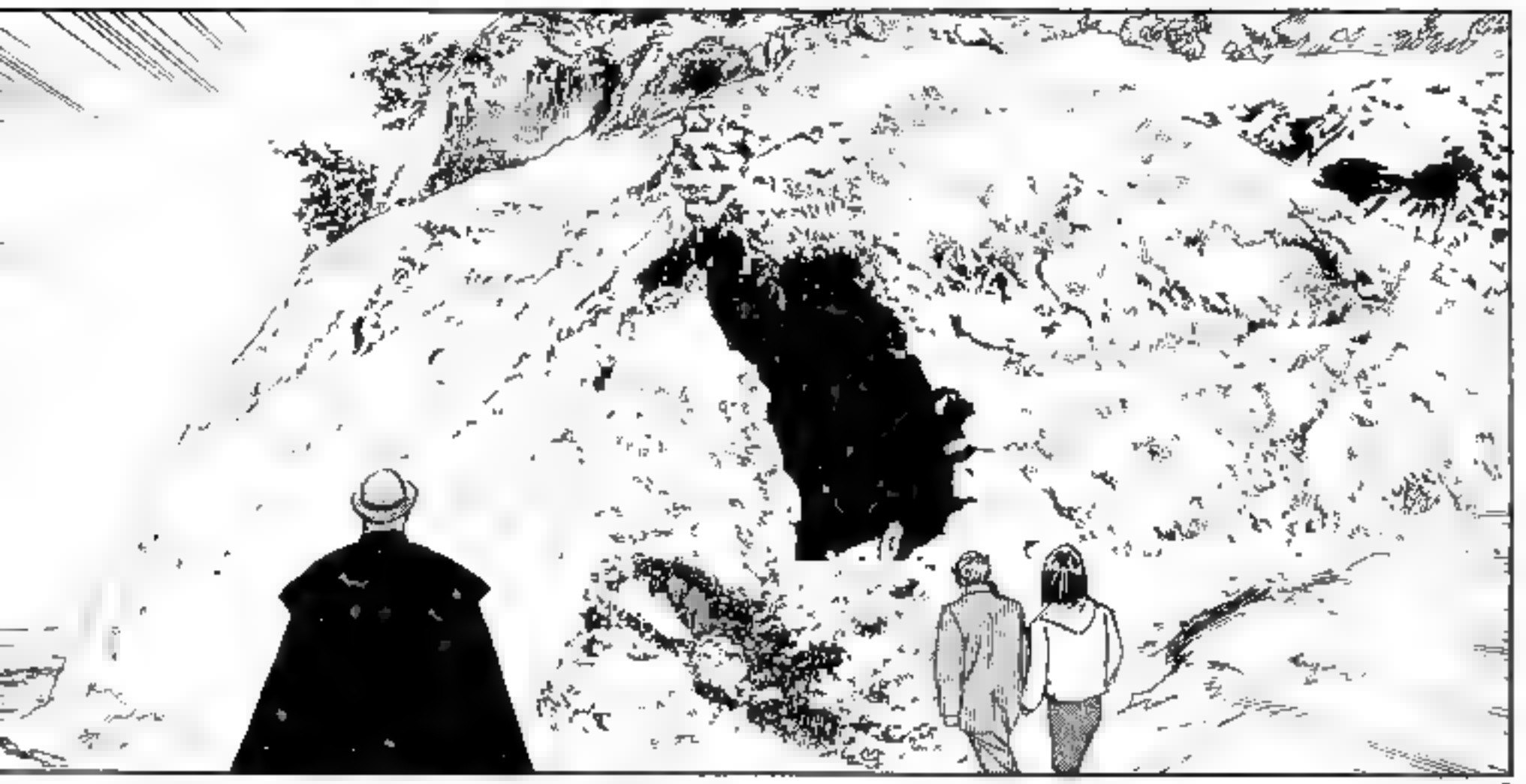

.....


It contained an interesting theory, with a New Year's ritual conducted here in her hometown as an example. I insisted that she take me here so I could see it for myself
I see ...


Please, Professon you're giving me too much praise! I think that's about enough.


Good for you, Midori! Now your Father has something to brag to his Fishing buddies about!


I mean it. Amidst all the papers that simply copied out other people's books, Midori had a unique thesis with fascinating content.



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is "Isana Shrine".

So this...

I've heard that Isana is an archaic word for "whale"...

That's right... In Ancient Korean, Isana meant "big fish"...

But the deities enshrined here are "Izanagi" and "Izanami", correct?

That's right.

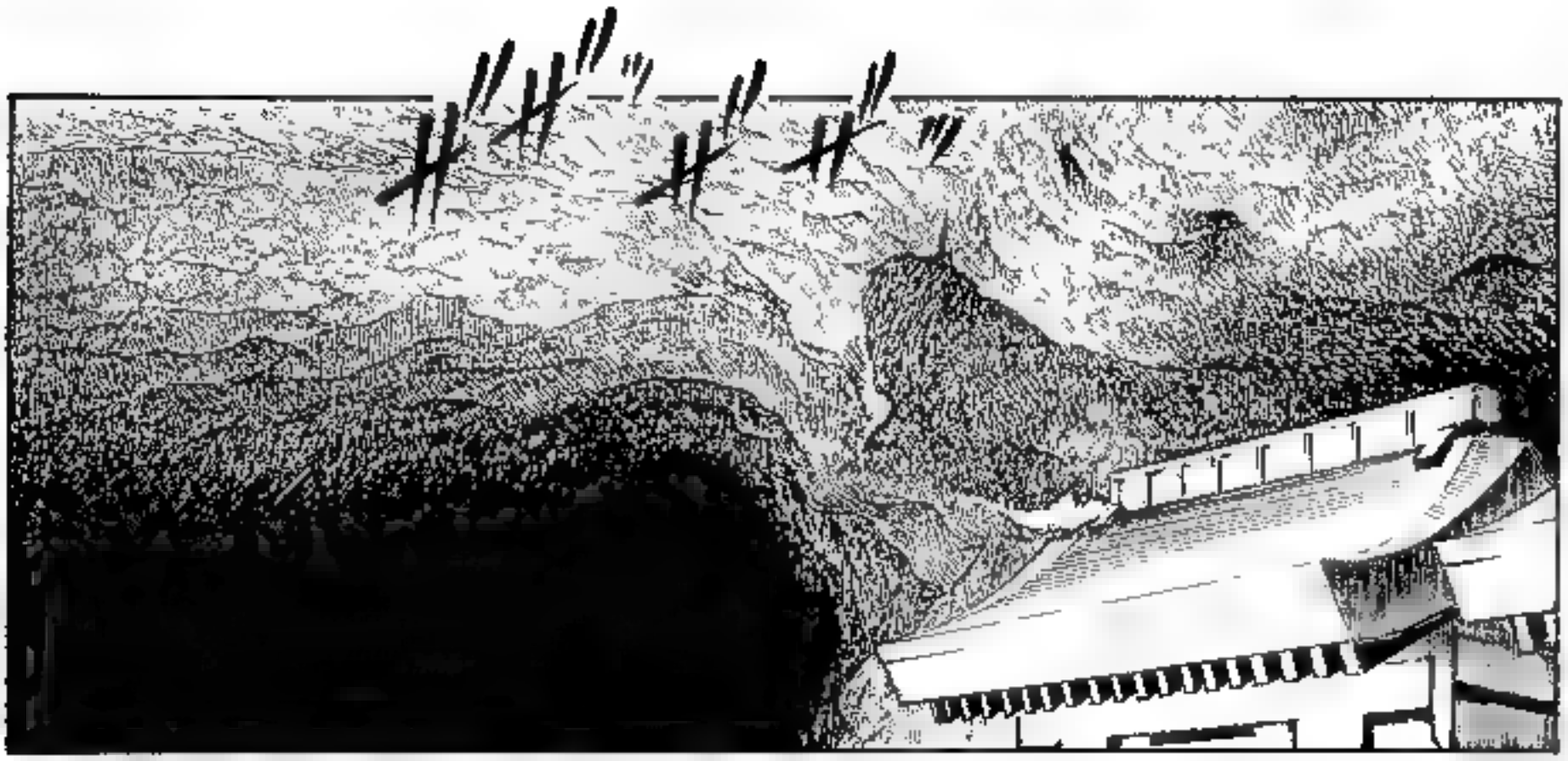
According to mythology, they are the couple of gods that gave birth to the land of Japan...

Their first child was named Hiruko, and because he was born with no bones, he was cast out to sea.

On the other hand, it seems that whales were also called "Ebisu".

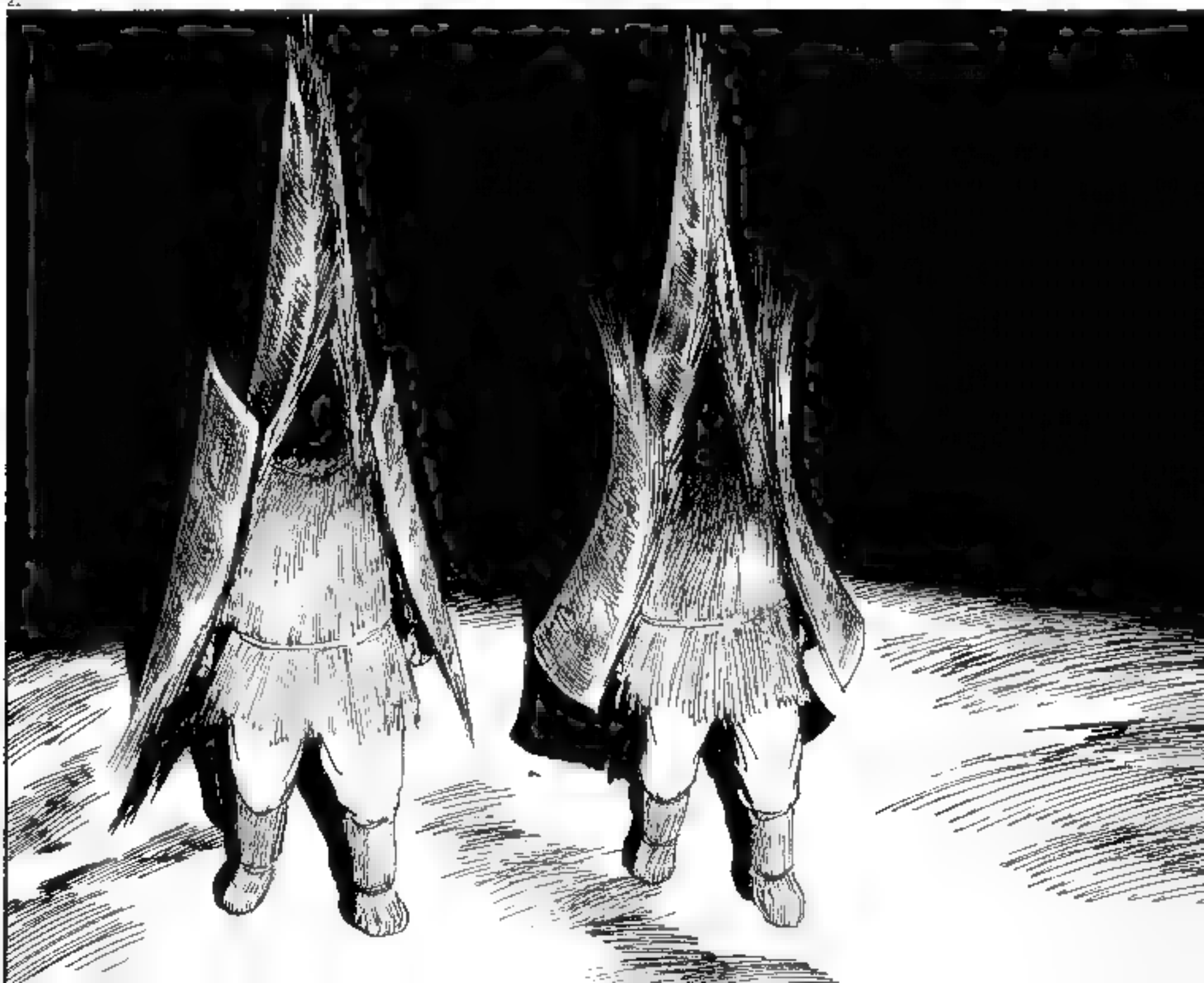
Hiruko was later equated with the god Ebisu, and thought of as a god that brings wealth from the sea to wash up on shore.

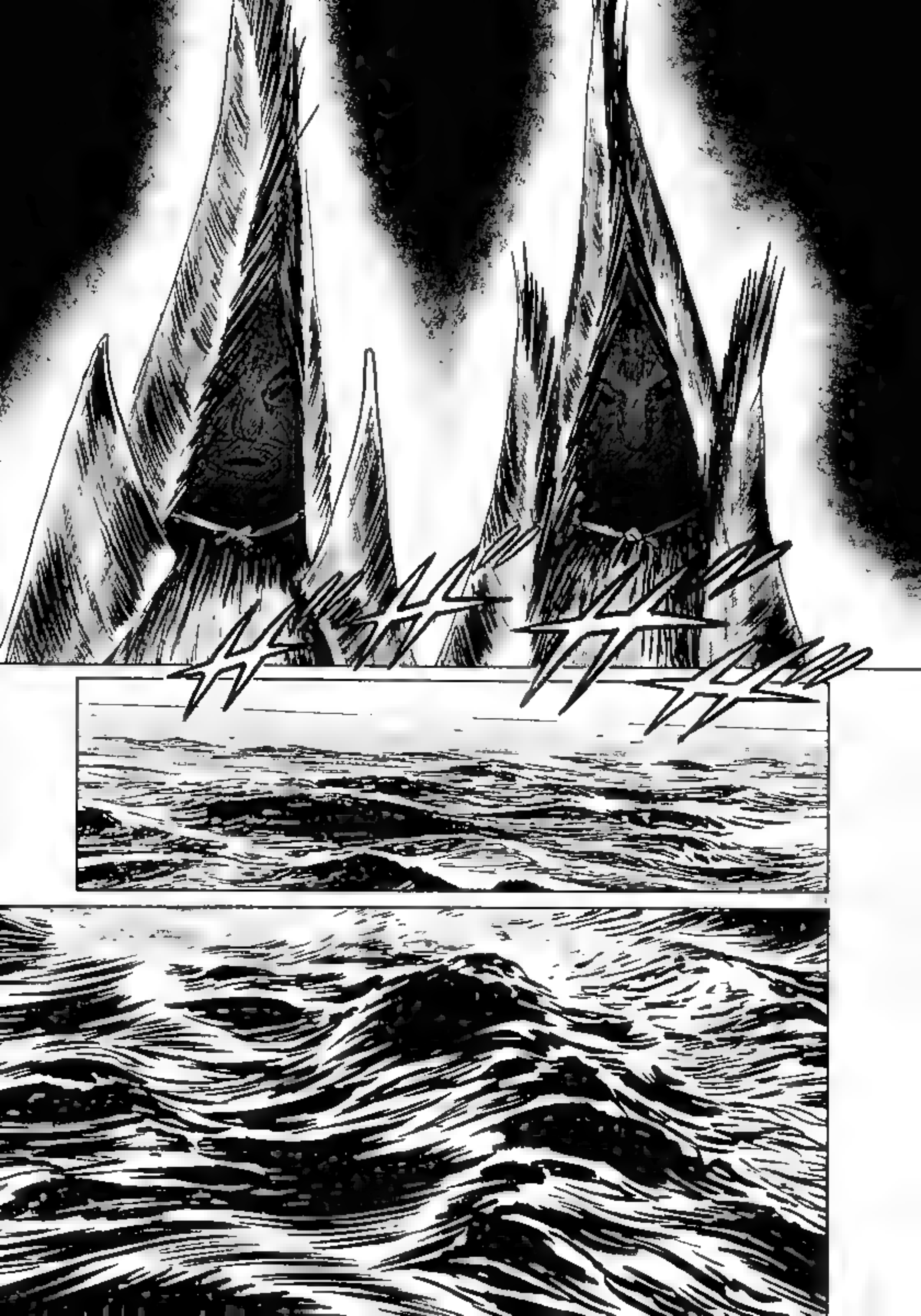
Yes. I think that's where the name of this town, Ebisuhama, comes from...






2.





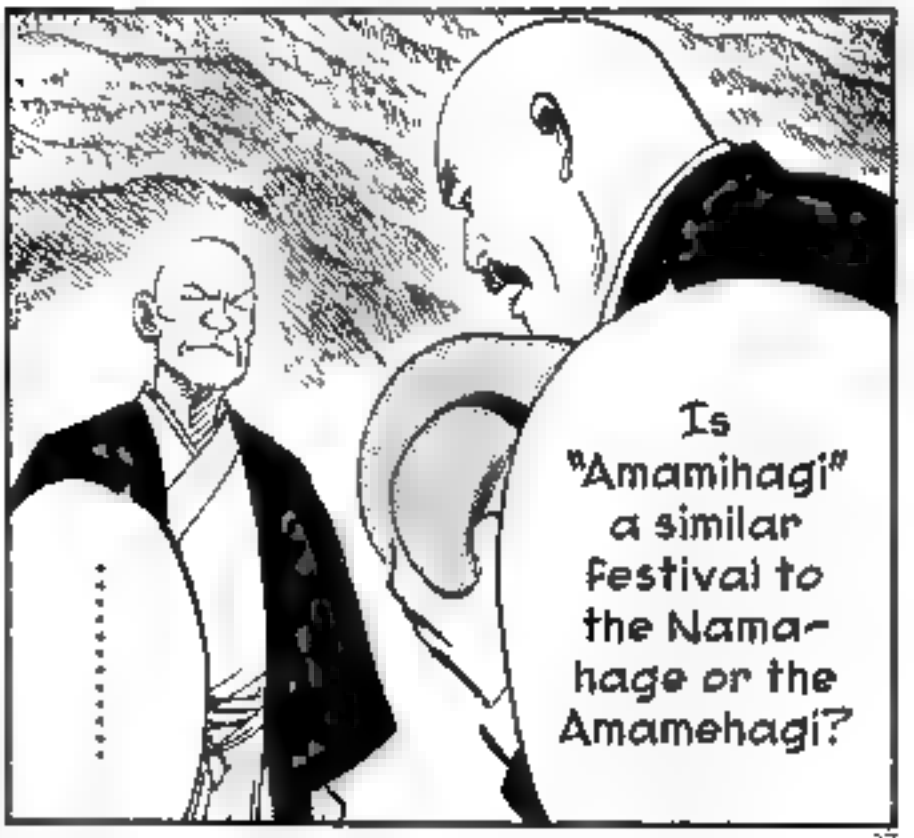




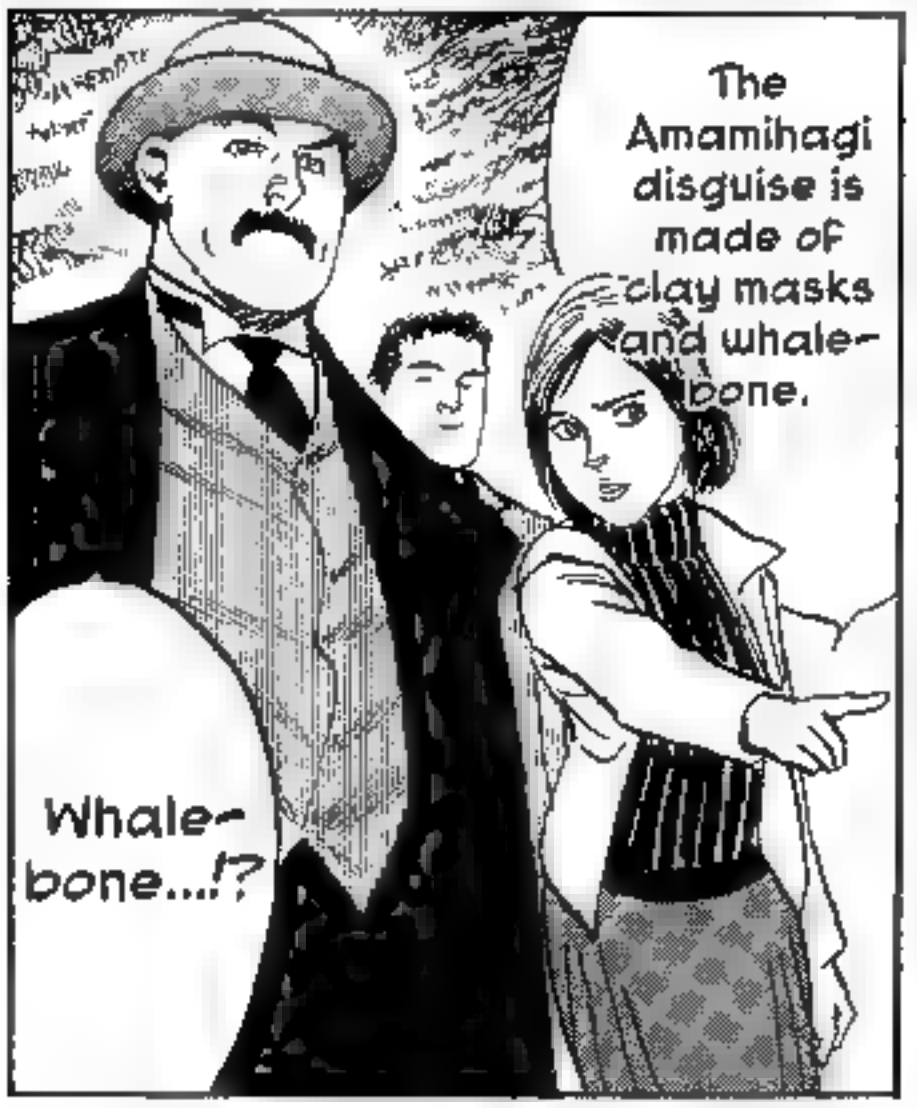
Y...Yuji! Midori!! What are you doing here?


This is not for show! We have to pay our respects to Izanagi and Izanami before New Year's Eve!
We're here showing Professor Munakata from Midori's university around Isana Shrine, and we thought we'd show him your preparations for the "Amamihagi" Festival, Father.


Go on, you two!


Is "Amamihagi" a similar festival to the Nama-hage or the Amamehagi?

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The Amamihagi disguise is made of clay masks and whale-bone.
Whale-bone...!?



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It's also known as baleen, and it's used to filter out smaller fish. They grow on whales such as the fin whale in place of teeth.



Uh, Professor... Come deeper into the cave...

Whales, eh... And those masks resemble Jomon-period masks... I suppose they really are Visiting Gods from the sea.

It looks like this rock cliff in the depths of the shrine caved in after the "Noto Peninsula Earthquake".

Nobody knows who or when it was stored here. Same goes for the baleen...

Of course not! We don't nearly have the people or boats to take on an endeavor that big.

It's a dismantled whale skeleton... Is there a history of whaling in this area?

AHHH

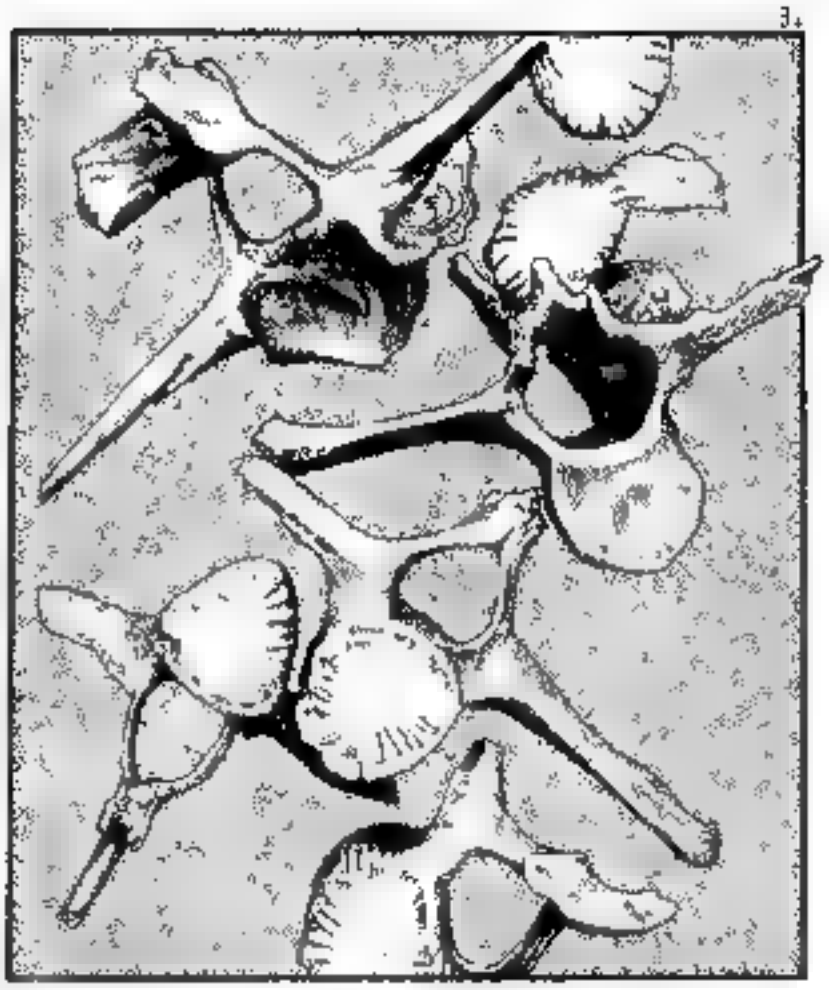
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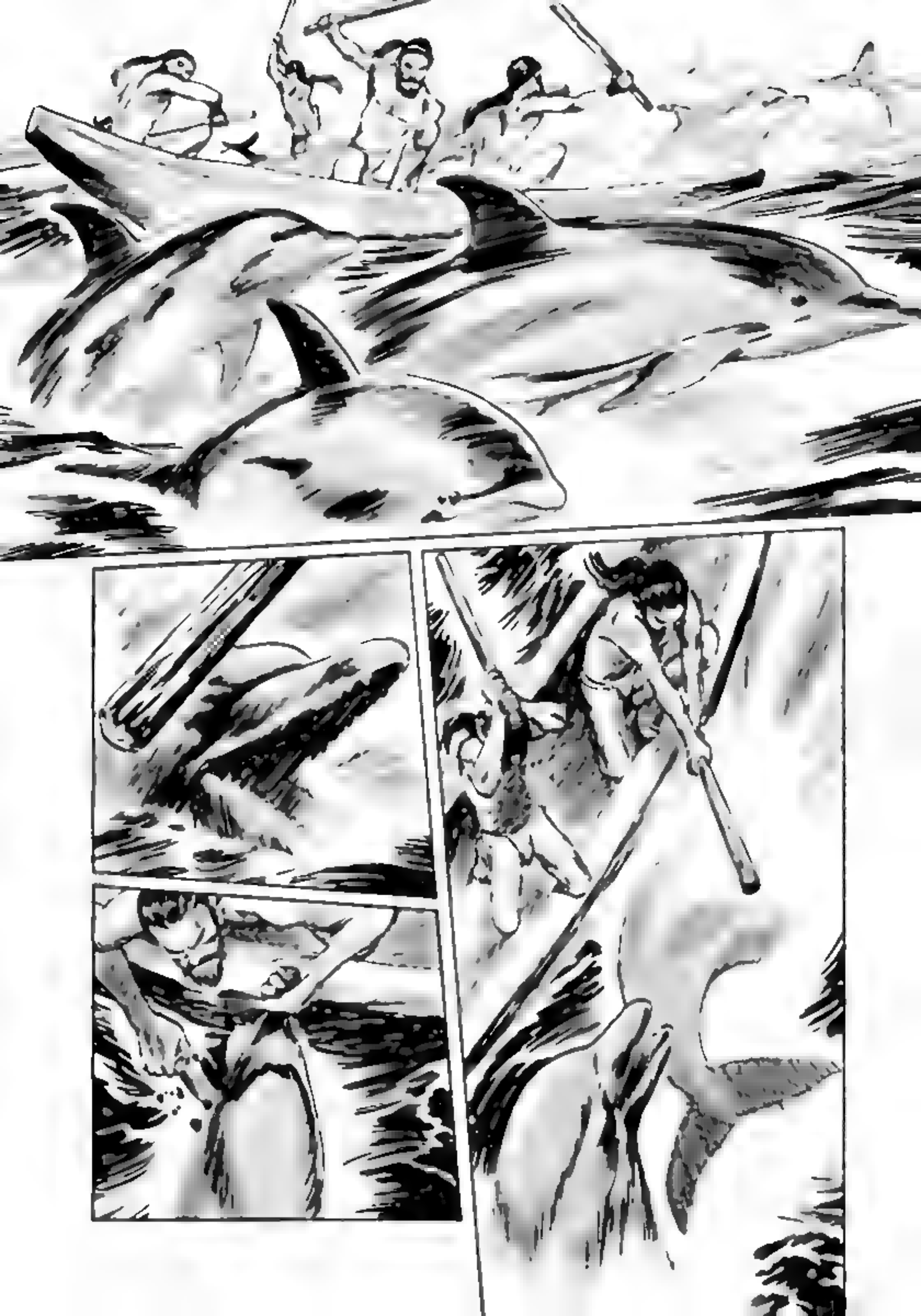
They found large numbers of dolphin bones, right? I learned about it in my history course.

Ebisuhama is close by to "Mawaki Ruins", which I mentioned in my lecture. Apart from stone masks, they've also excavated countless bones of the animals they've eaten. And among them...

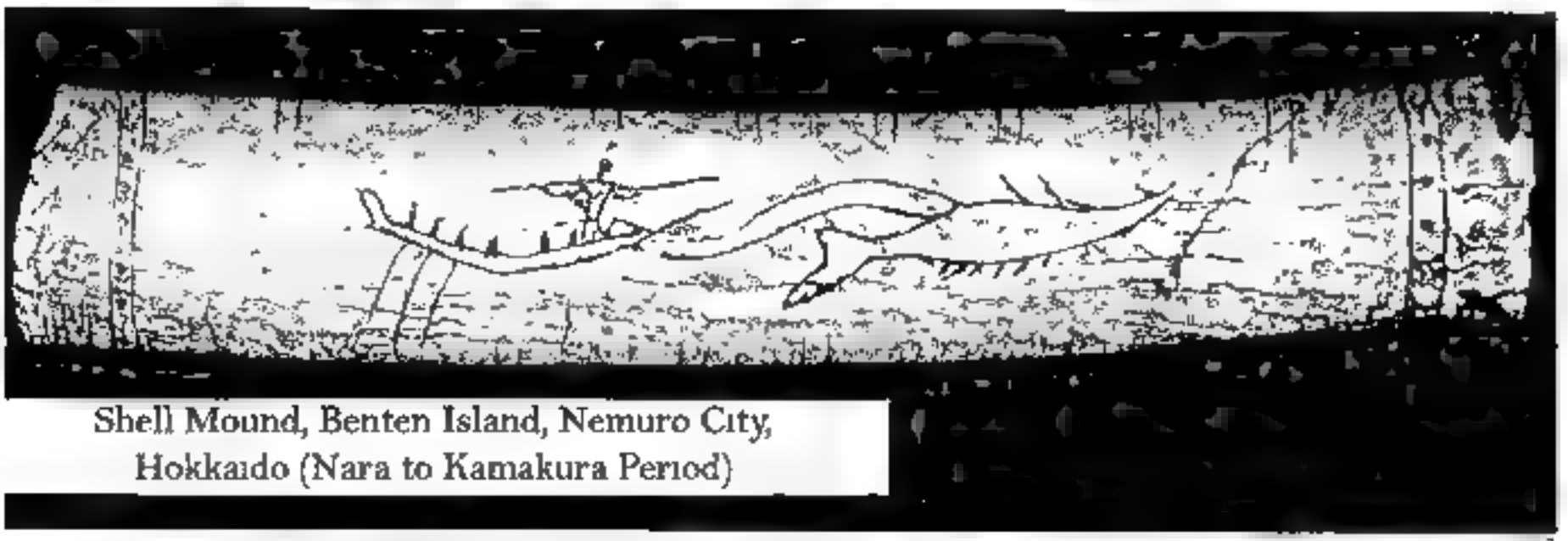
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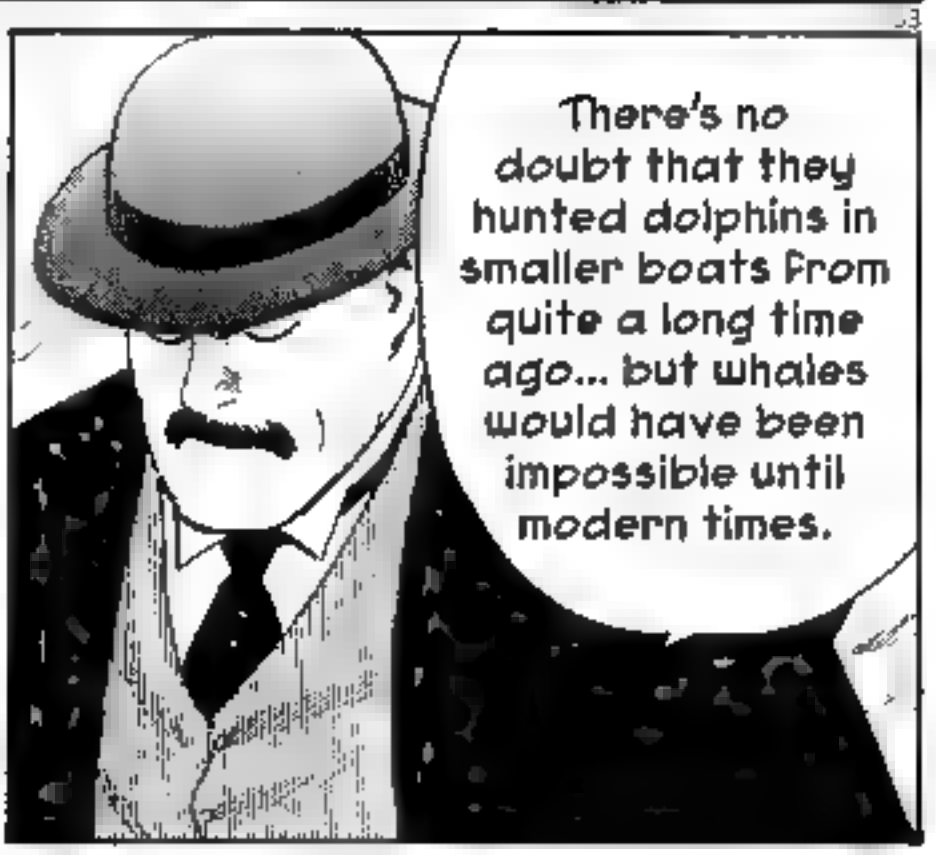




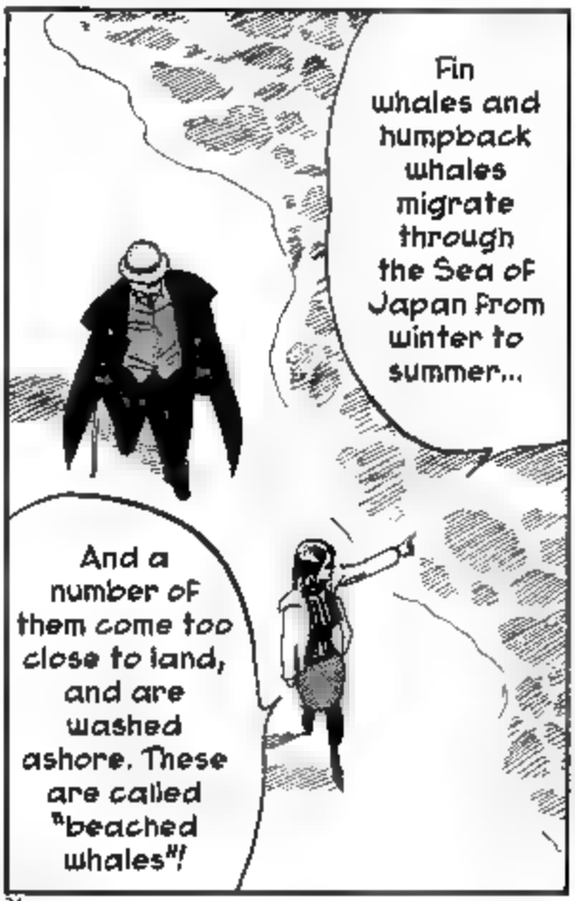


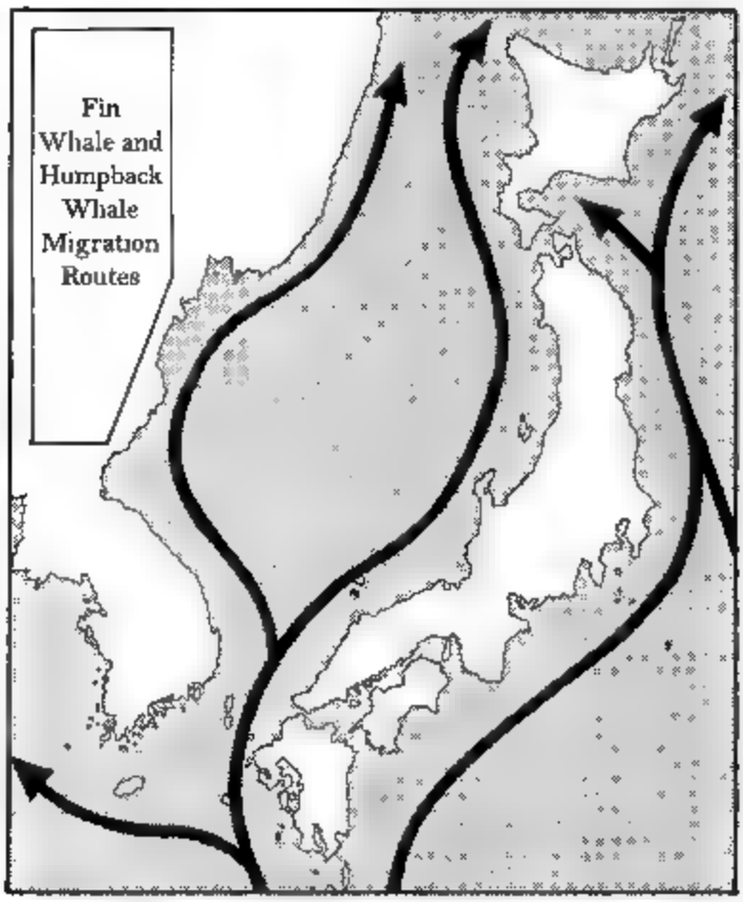
Shell Mound, Benten Island, Nemuro City, Hokkaido (Nara to Kamakura Period)





There's no doubt that they hunted dolphins in smaller boats from quite a long time ago... but whales would have been impossible until modern times.




Fin whales and humpback whales migrate through the Sea of Japan from winter to summer...
And a number of them come too close to land, and are washed ashore. These are called "beached whales"!


Fin Whale and Humpback Whale Migration Routes

















I think that this was the prototype of the "Visiting Gods".

A single whale can feed seven villages... The "beached whales" were mountains of food, from which the people in the surrounding area could shave meat off of

I believe the tradition began from welcoming in the Whale God as it went from house to house, and sending it out so that it could come back next year.

The masks expressed the appearance of gods, symbolizing a transformation into the "Whale God".

During the Jomon period, Tohoku, Chubu, and Hokuriku were the centers of population and culture.

And naturally, "beached whales" are limited to the coast...

Hmm ...

Distribution of Visiting Gods

Whale Migration Routes

then it may have been replaced in the Yayoi period with the custom of praying to the masked visiting gods for bountiful harvests, as seen in Europe and China, along with the transmission of rice farming...

If the Jomon tradition of visiting gods was rooted in these coast-lines...

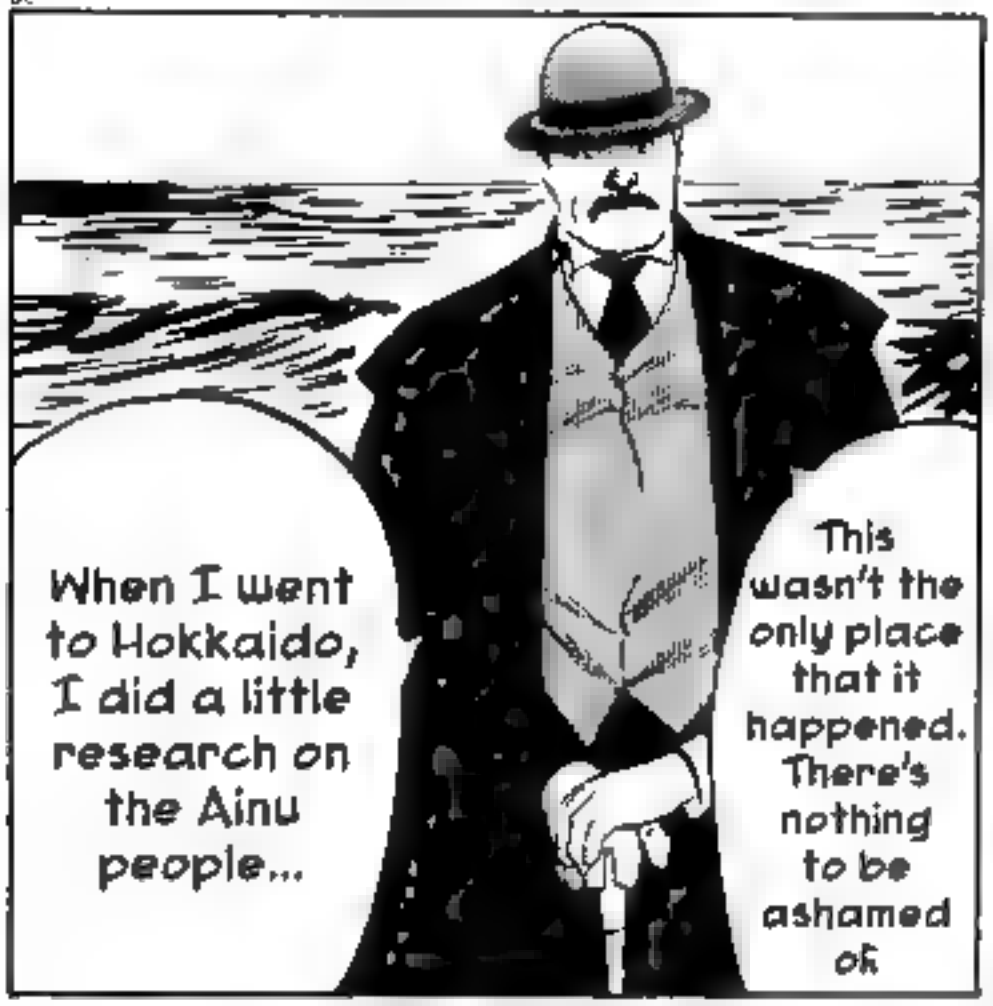
Since Ebisuhama may be where the oldest form of this tradition remains, I'm saddened by the thought of what my ancestors must have done to the dolphins and whales.

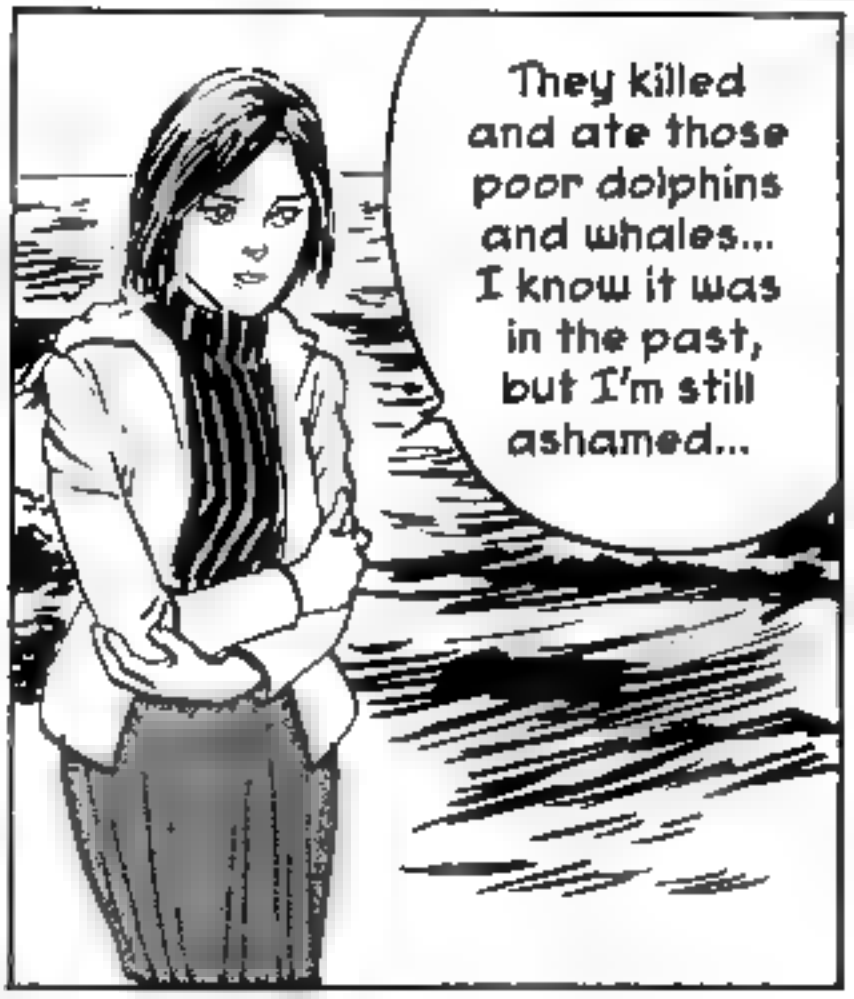
...And that was the thesis of your paper, right, Minami?

Yes. But...

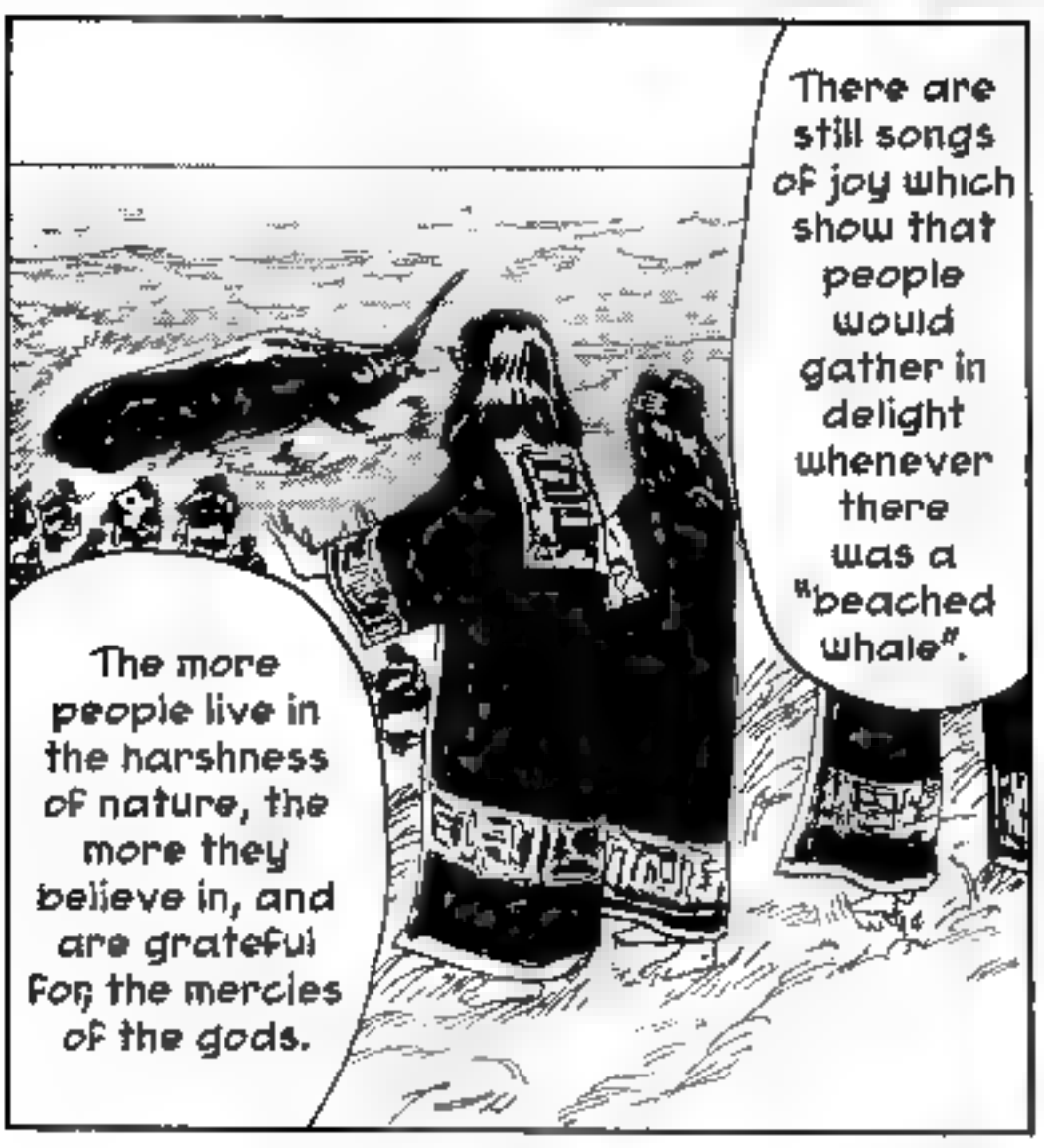


38


When I went to Hokkaido, I did a little research on the Ainu people...
This wasn't the only place that it happened. There's nothing to be ashamed of


They killed and ate those poor dolphins and whales... I know it was in the past, but I'm still ashamed...


When animals wandered in to their land, they would hold a grand festival in which they killed it, divided the meat, and sent its spirit to the land of the gods.
They were a hunting people like the Jomon, and they believed that "Kamuy" resided in the animals they caught.


There are still songs of joy which show that people would gather in delight whenever there was a "beached whale".
The more people live in the harshness of nature, the more they believe in, and are grateful for, the mercies of the gods.



39



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Yes, but they're all delicacies. I'll have them gladly!
Go on, eat! I know this is the end of the year, but I'm afraid we don't have much to offer besides fish.
Hahaha! I just caught them this morning, with my Father
I was raised in Fukuoka, but rarely have I had the chance to eat such fresh fish... Did you catch them yourself?
Mmmm... They're good!


.....
The ship belongs to my father, but he's retiring next year. So I'm going to take it over and make a fortune!




Since baleen whales eat smaller fish, they would often drive schools off into the bay...
Whales have been known as "the god Ebisu" since ancient times. They were believed to be gods that bring wealth and fortune from the ocean.


They truly are gods that bring the fortune of the ocean...!!

When people are starving, they bless them with fish!

Whales are the avatar of the god of the sea!

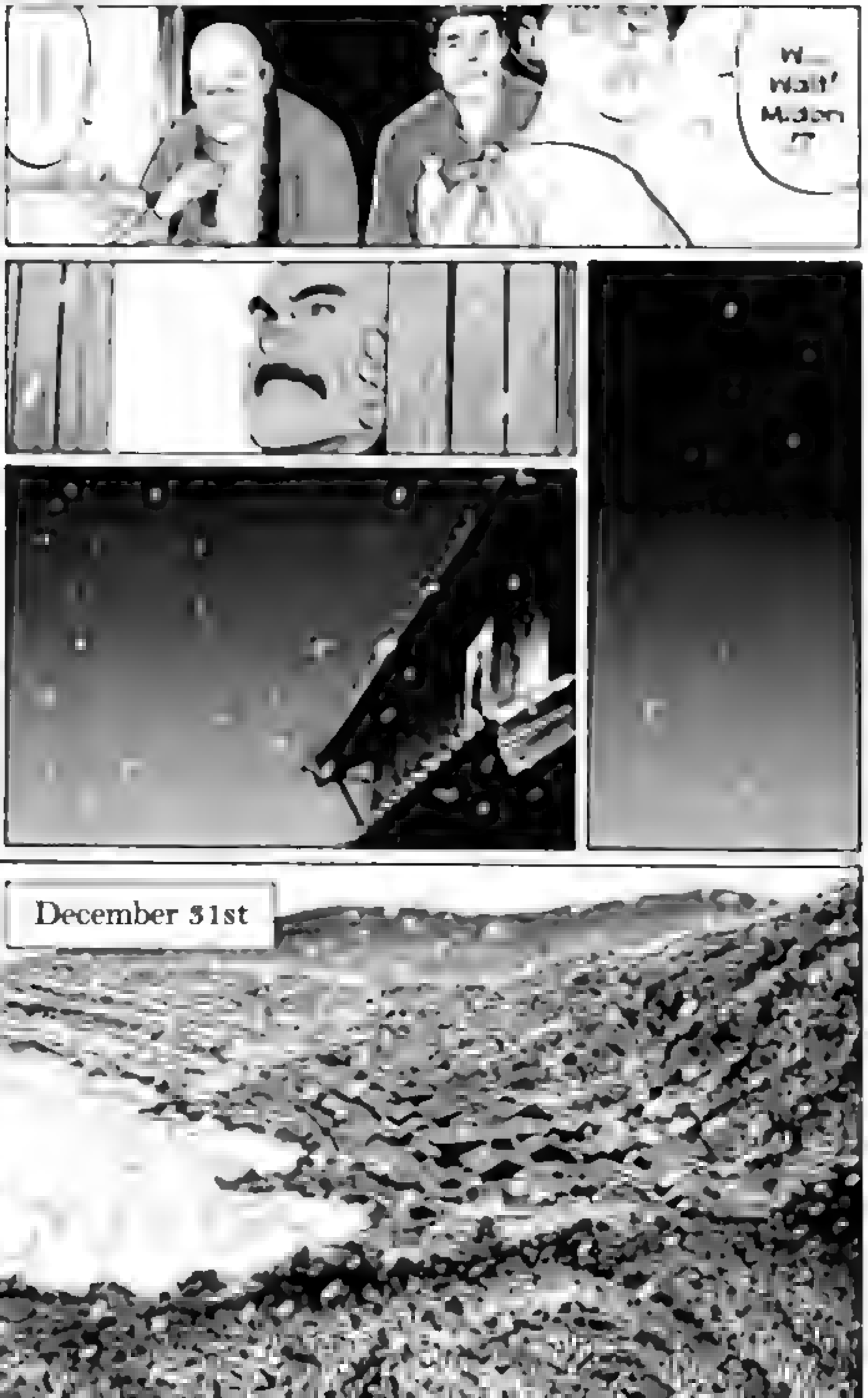
This is true!

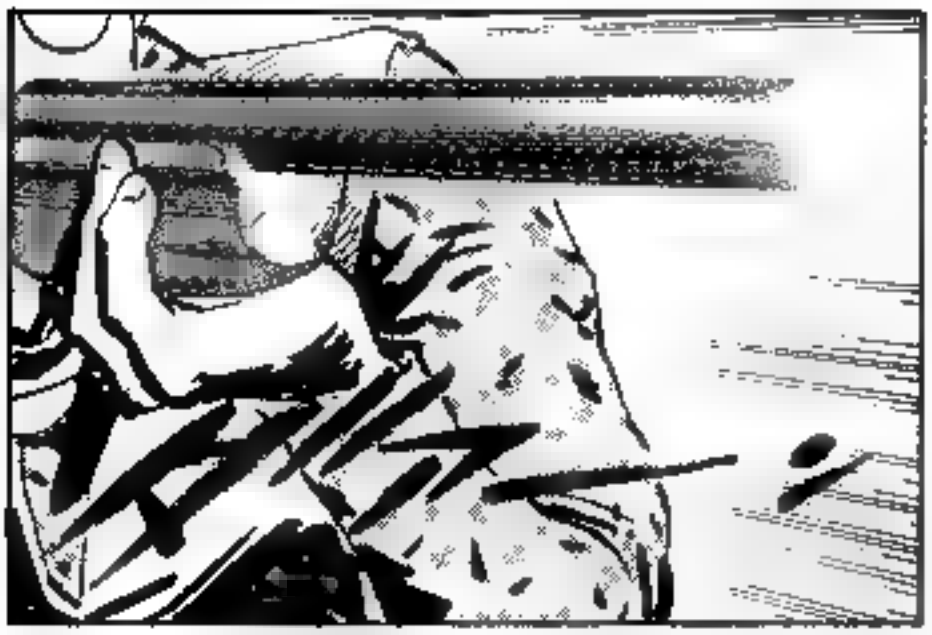
Hahaha! That's what the elders would say...

the whales themselves would throw themselves up on shore, offering themselves to be eaten!!

And if there were no fish...

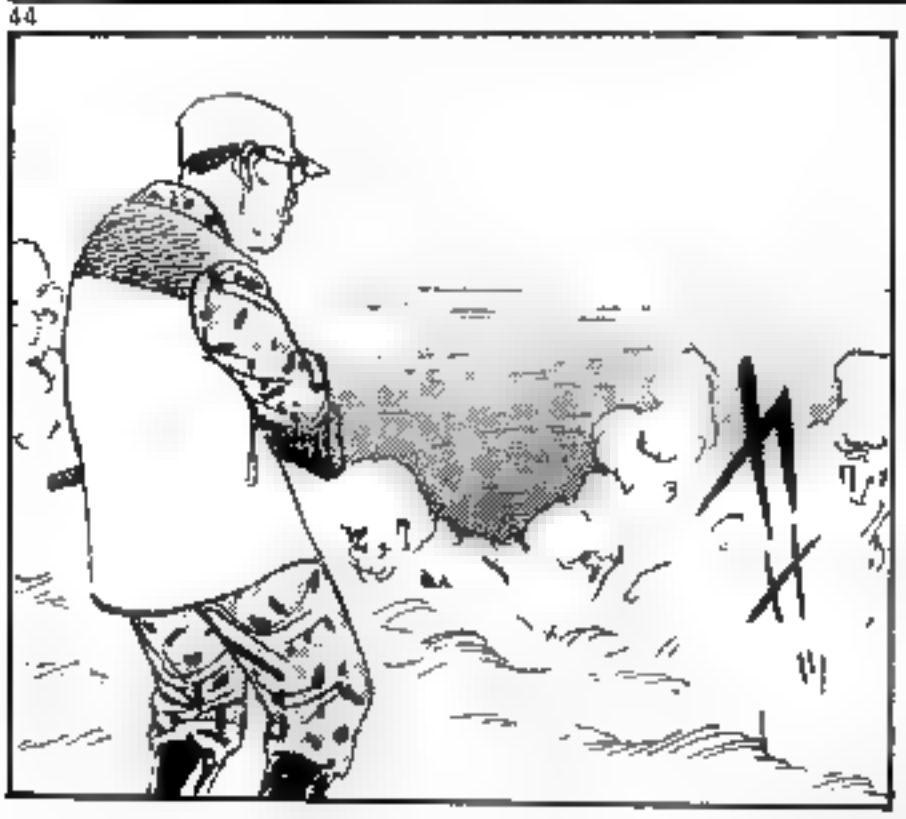
Excuse me!


W...
Wait'
M.Jon
T
December 31st



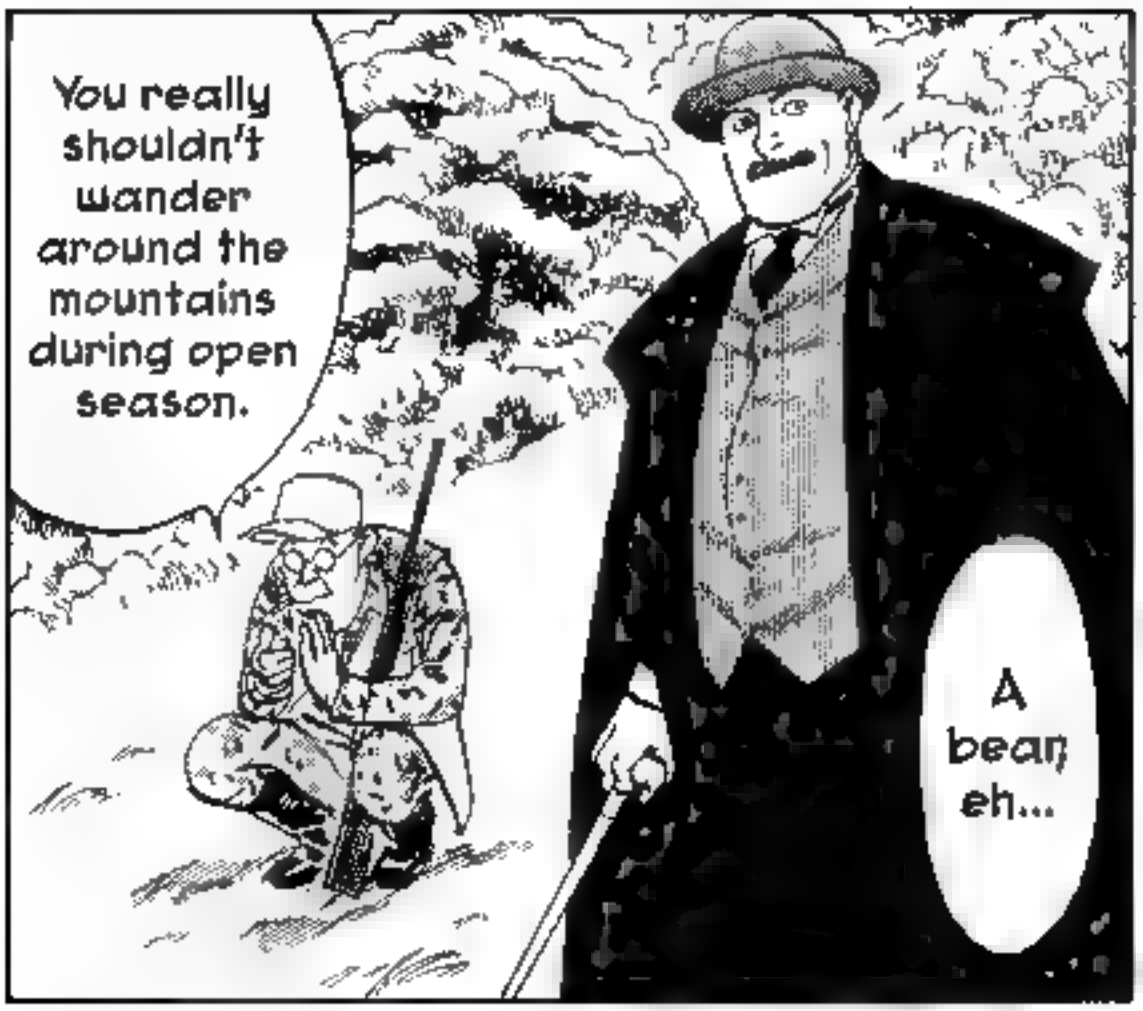






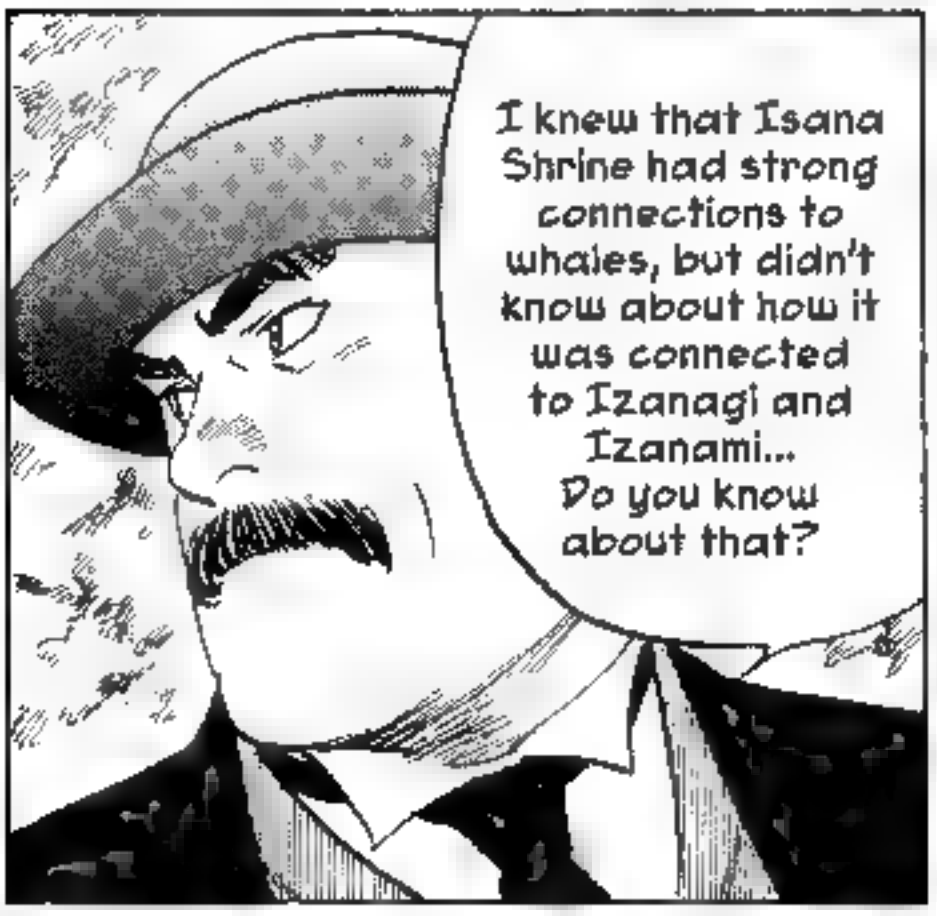

...Tch.


!

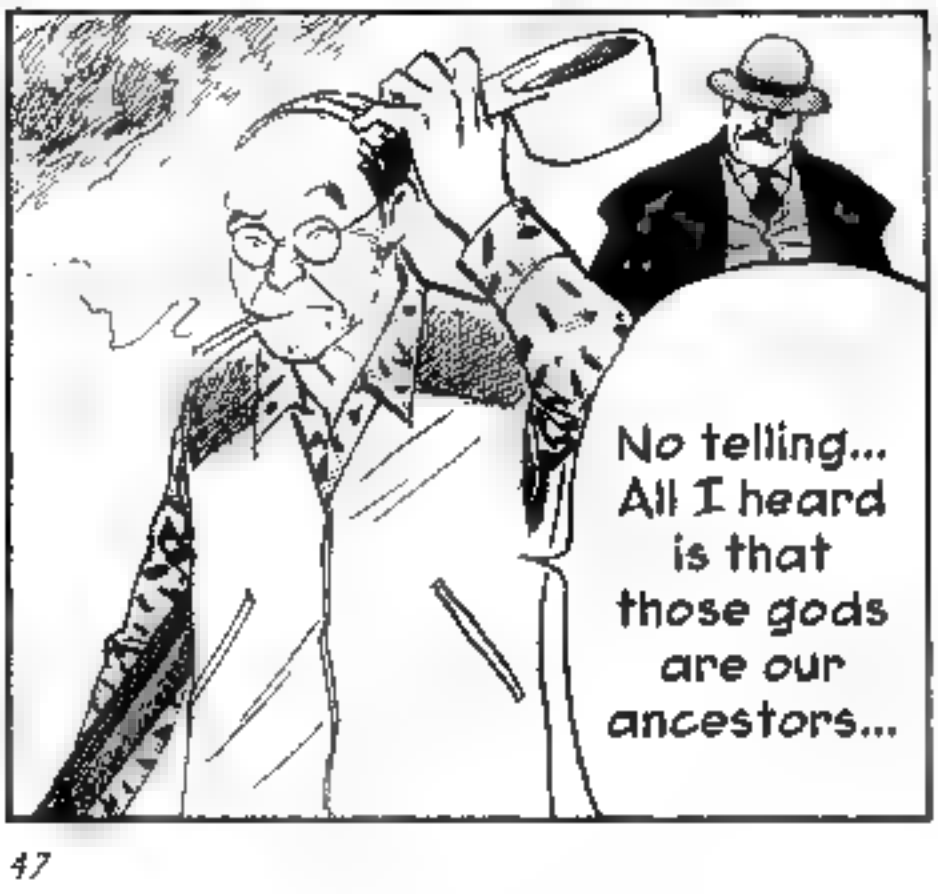

You really shouldn't wander around the mountains during open season.
A bear, eh...


Ahhh, you scared me!
I almost thought you were a bear!

45


I knew that Isana Shrine had strong connections to whales, but didn't know about how it was connected to Izanagi and Izanami... Do you know about that?


You're Mr. Okita, who was serving as a steward alongside Mr. Minami yesterday, aren't you? I saw you here, and I was hoping I could talk to you...
Talk ...?


No telling... All I heard is that those gods are our ancestors...

47

In the Chinese "Mang-gao", the people summon their ancestor gods by circling around a pillar in a plaza, which represents the beginning of the world.

The masked visiting gods of China and Europe also represent ancestor spirits.

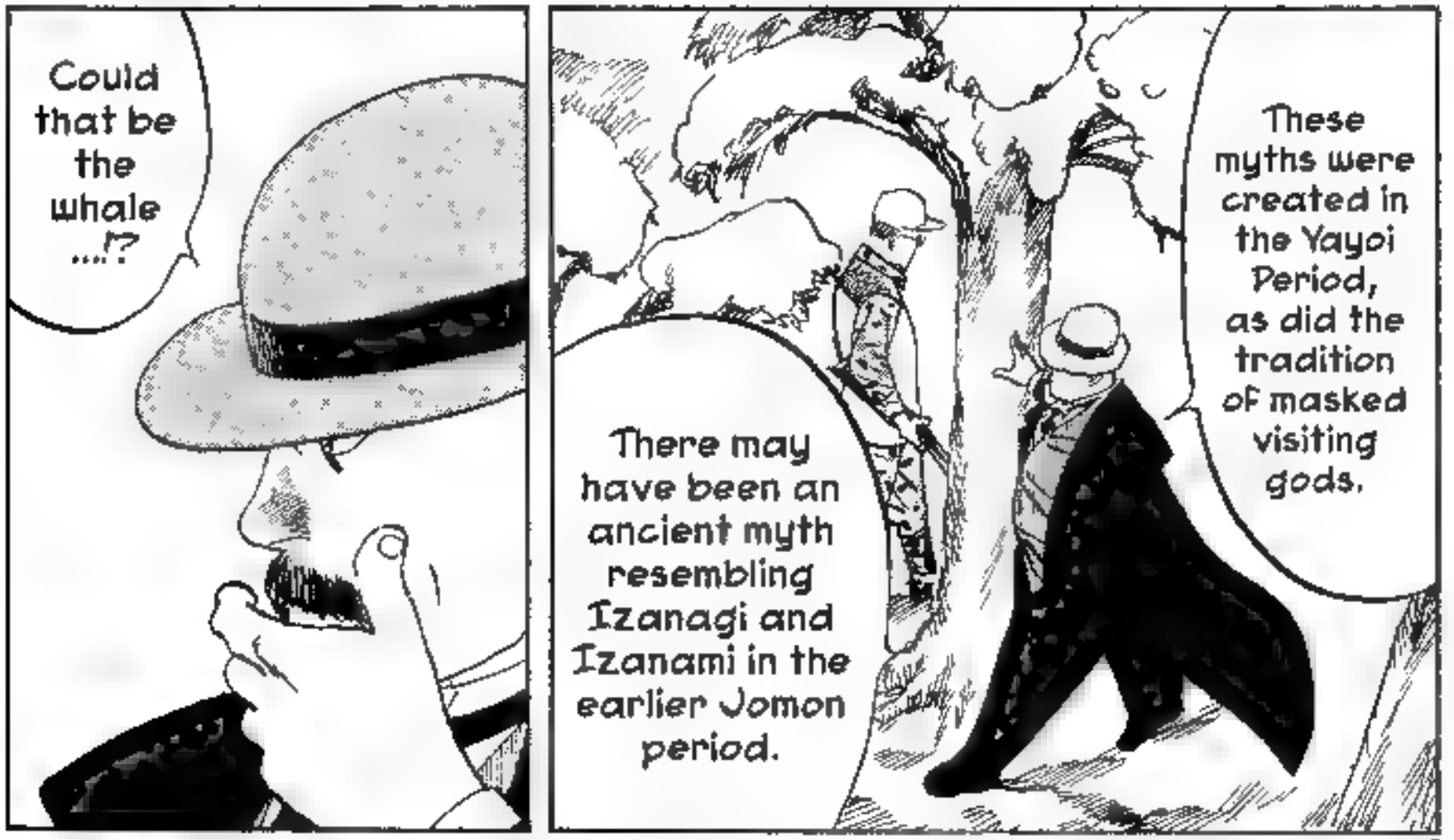
An-cestor gods. I see...

In Japanese mythology, Izanagi and Izanami are wed after they circle around the Heavenly Pillar...

You could say they are the ancestor gods of all creation.

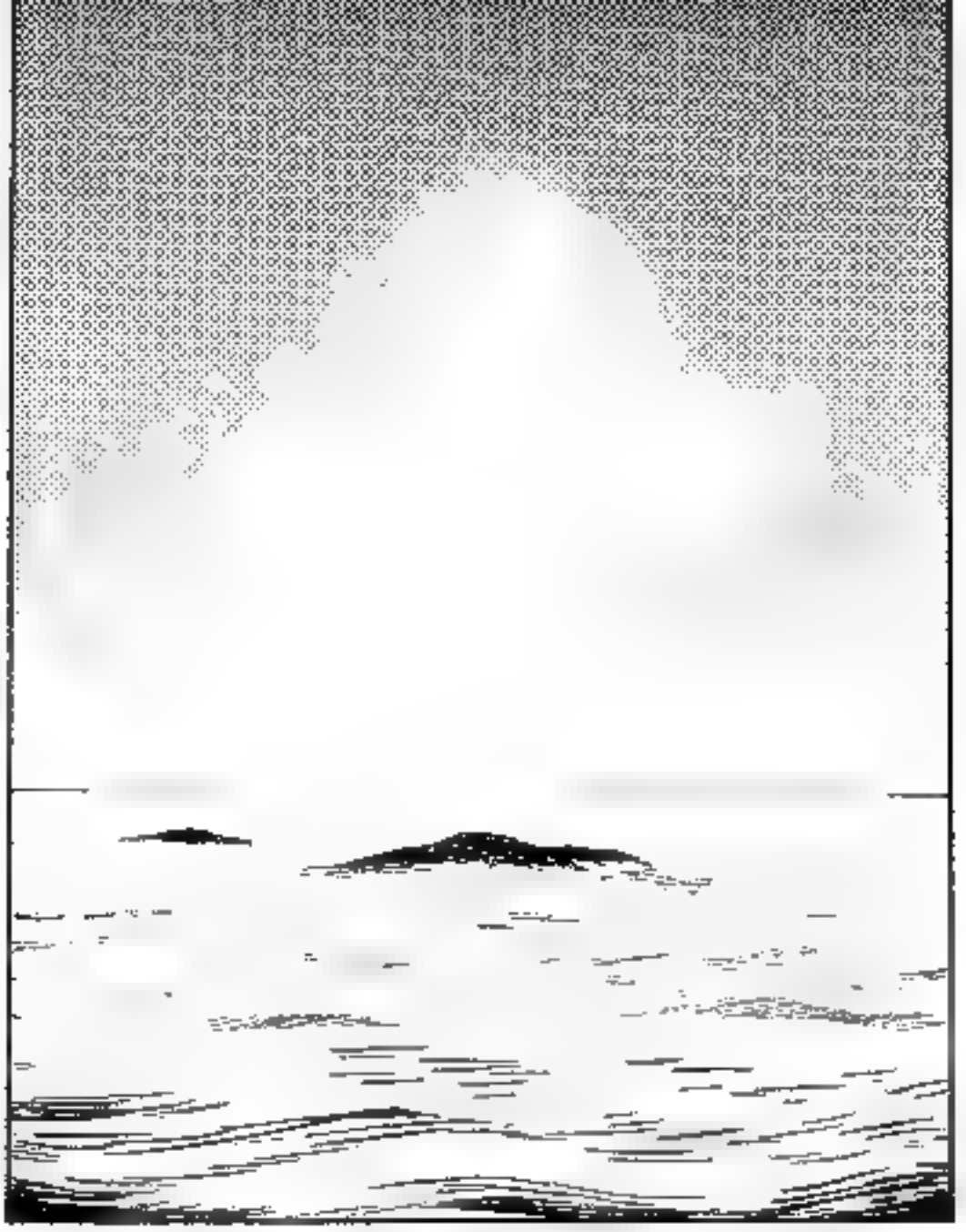
They then made love, and gave birth to everything in the natural world.




Could that be the whale ....!?
There may have been an ancient myth resembling Izanagi and Izanami in the earlier Jomon period.
These myths were created in the Yayoi Period, as did the tradition of masked visiting gods.


Hmm ...?
I don't have the slightest idea of what you're talking about...



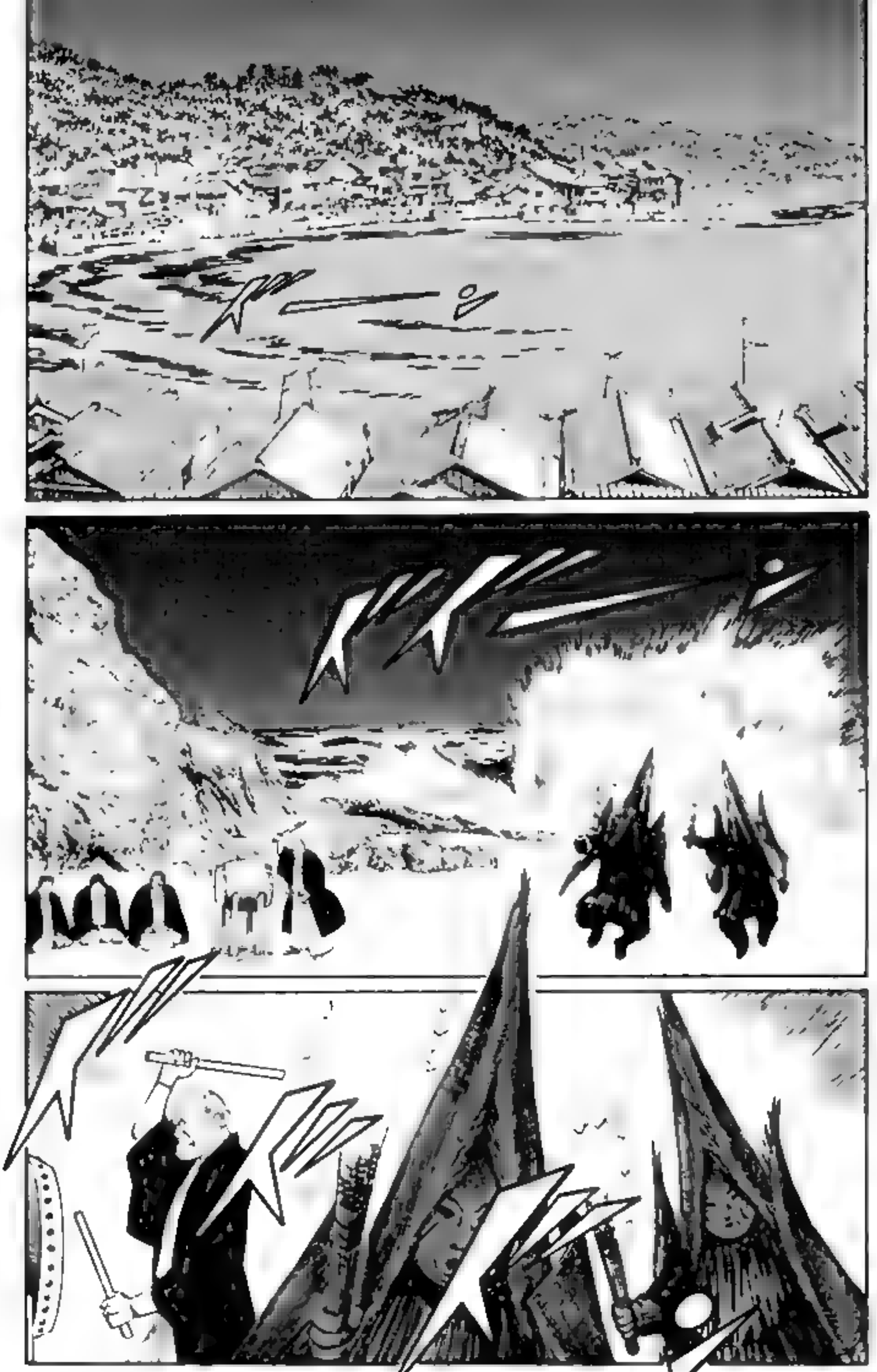



48



50

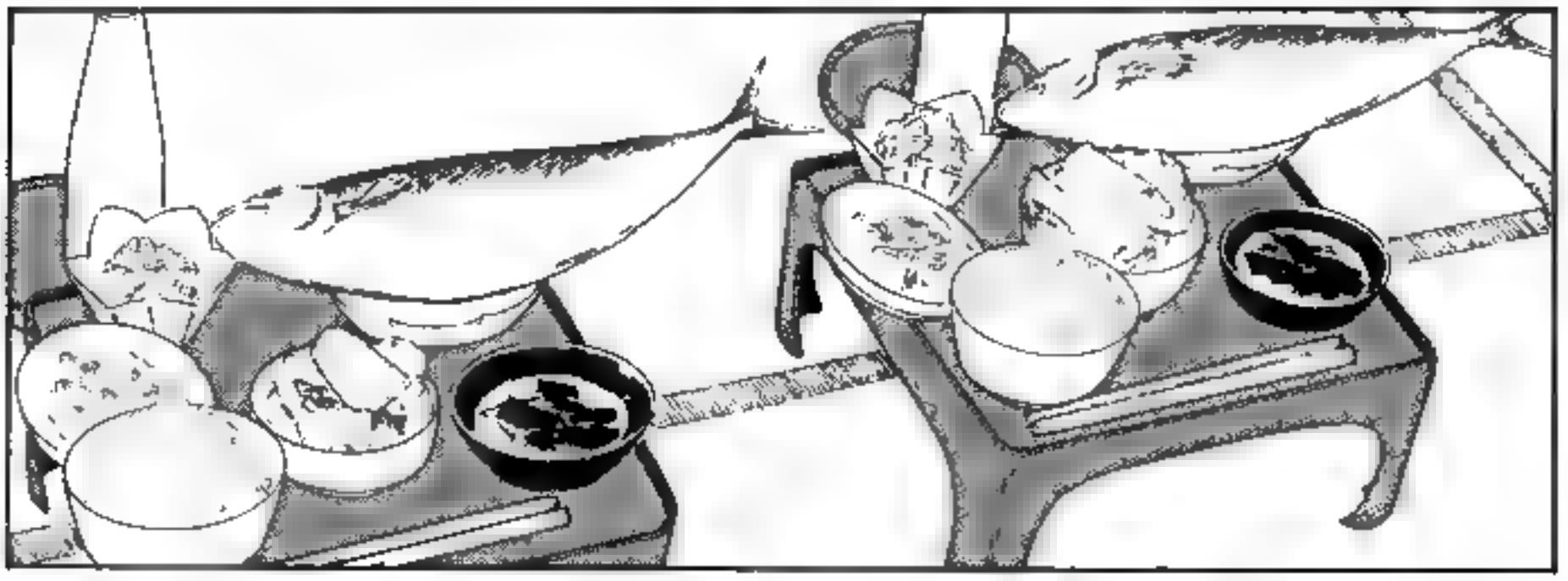


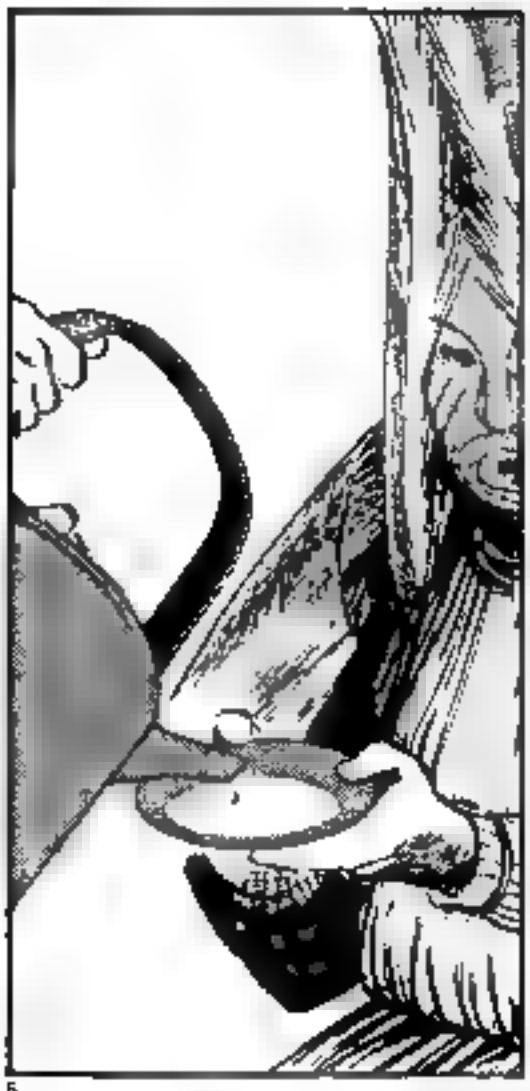










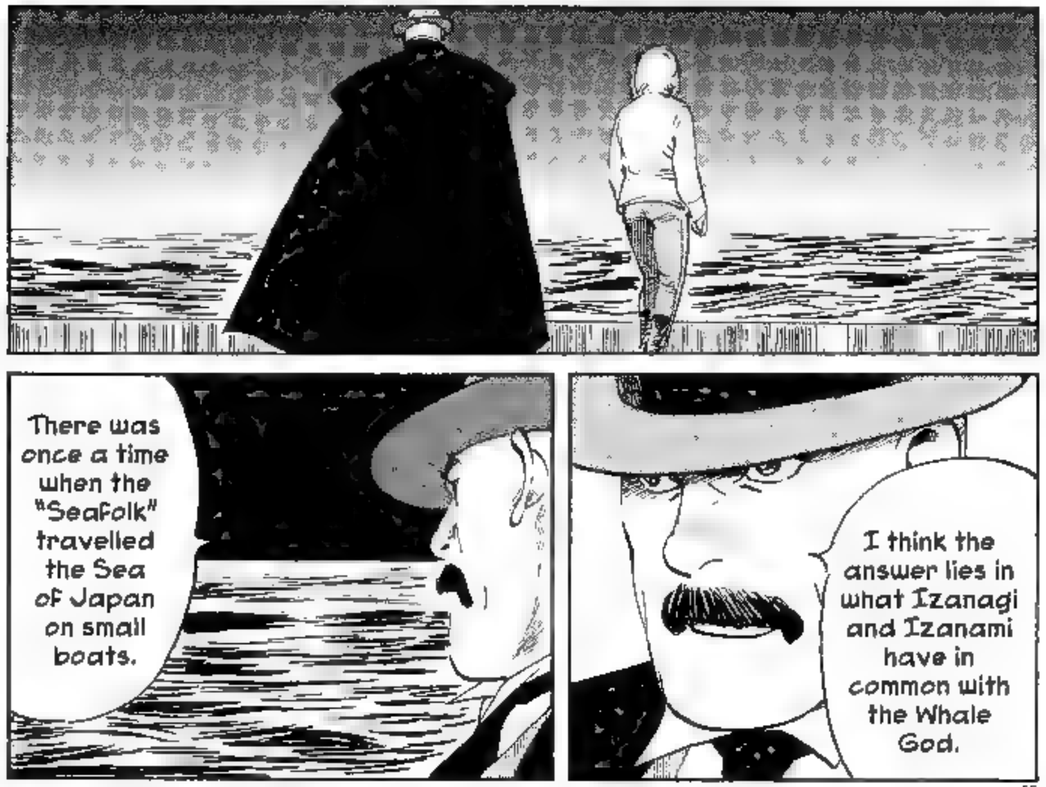



Welcome
to our
humble
abode.

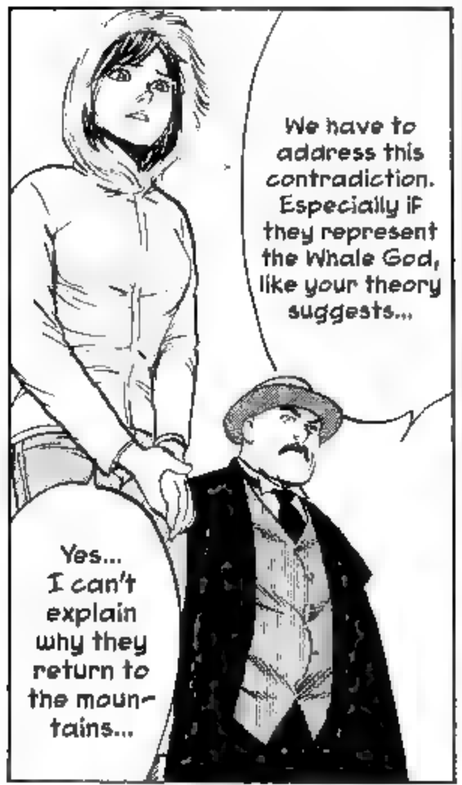


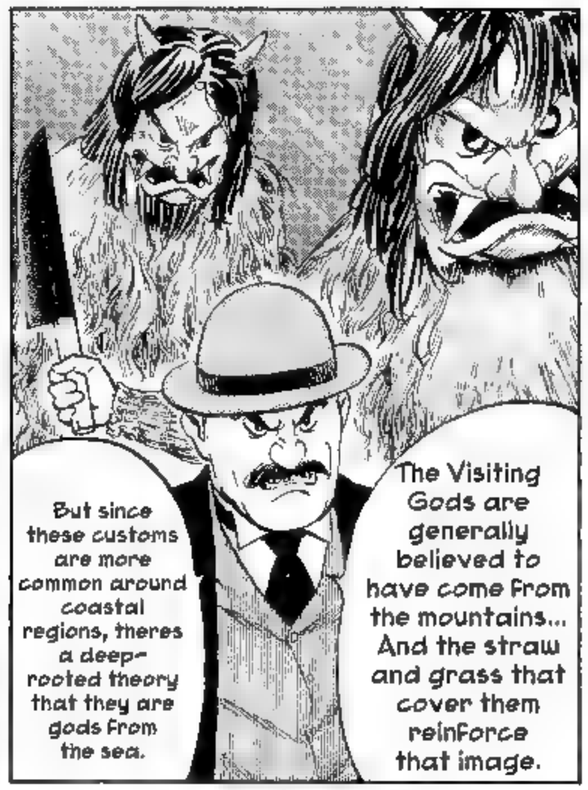



...The "Amamihagi" visit about twenty homes on New Year's Eve, much like this...
yet when they leave, they go to the mountains as "mountain gods".
But the strange thing is that they start from the sea,

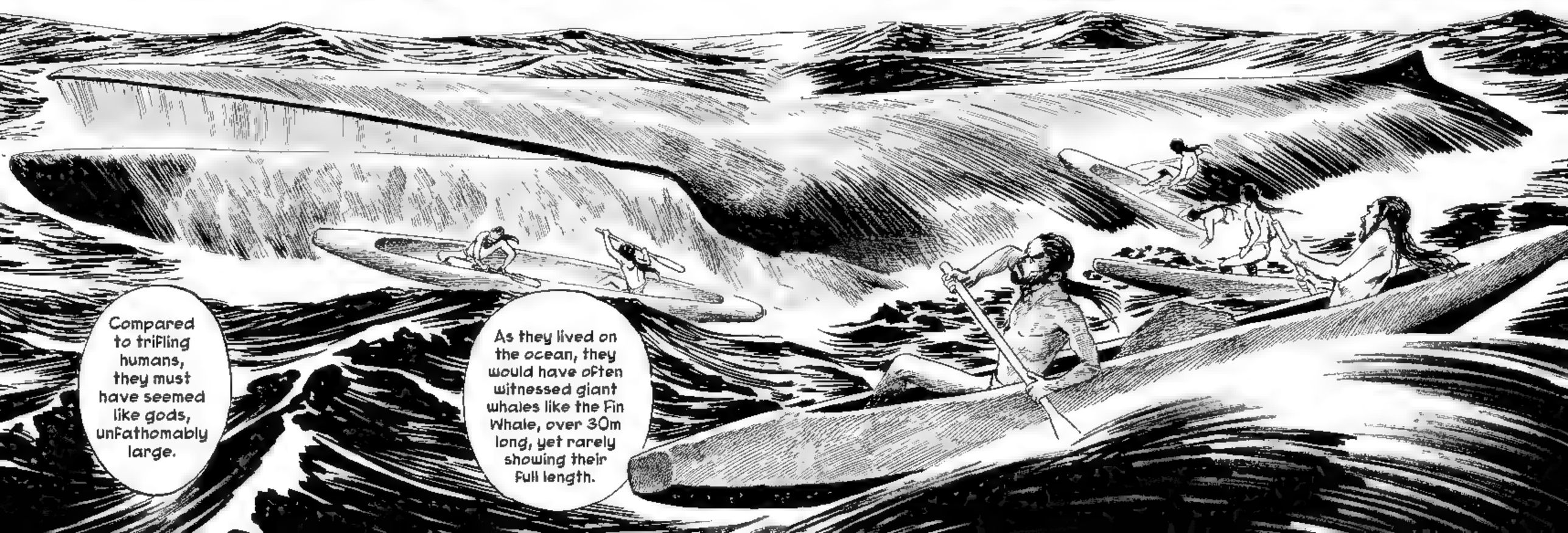

There was once a time when the "SeaFolk" travelled the Sea of Japan on small boats.
I think the answer lies in what Izanagi and Izanami have in common with the Whale God.




We have to address this contradiction. Especially if they represent the Whale God, like your theory suggests...
Yes... I can't explain why they return to the mountains...


But since these customs are more common around coastal regions, theres a deep-rooted theory that they are gods from the sea.
The Visiting Gods are generally believed to have come from the mountains... And the straw and grass that cover them reinforce that image.




Compared to trifling humans, they must have seemed like gods, unfathomably large.
As they lived on the ocean, they would have often witnessed giant whales like the Fin Whale, over 30m long, yet rarely showing their full length.

It would not be strange for them to produce naive myths that the islands and land are the fossils of ancient giant whales.

And mankind and all things were created atop that land...

If the whales became the land, you could also say that the god of the sea became the god of the mountain.

passed down by the Seafolk may have been the "original myth of Izanagi and Izanami"...

The "Whale" was a god that created a place for people to live, brought them schools of fish,

and sometimes even offered itself up to them...

It would be natural for people to show them heartfelt

When Japanese mythology was being compiled in the late 7th Century, they must have incorporated the myths told by powerful SeaFolk tribes, like the Azumi Clan, the Okinaga Clan, and the Munakata Clan.

But it was no longer the age of the sea. It was the agriculturally-centered age of land. After giving birth to the land from within the sea, Izanagi and Izanami had to exit the scene.

Izanagi descended to Yomi in search of his beloved wife.

Because the last thing she gave birth to was the god of fire, Izanami burned to death.

Upon their reunion, Izanami told him that she would speak with the God of Yomi, and see if he would allow her to return with her husband.

But while they spoke, he must not look inside.

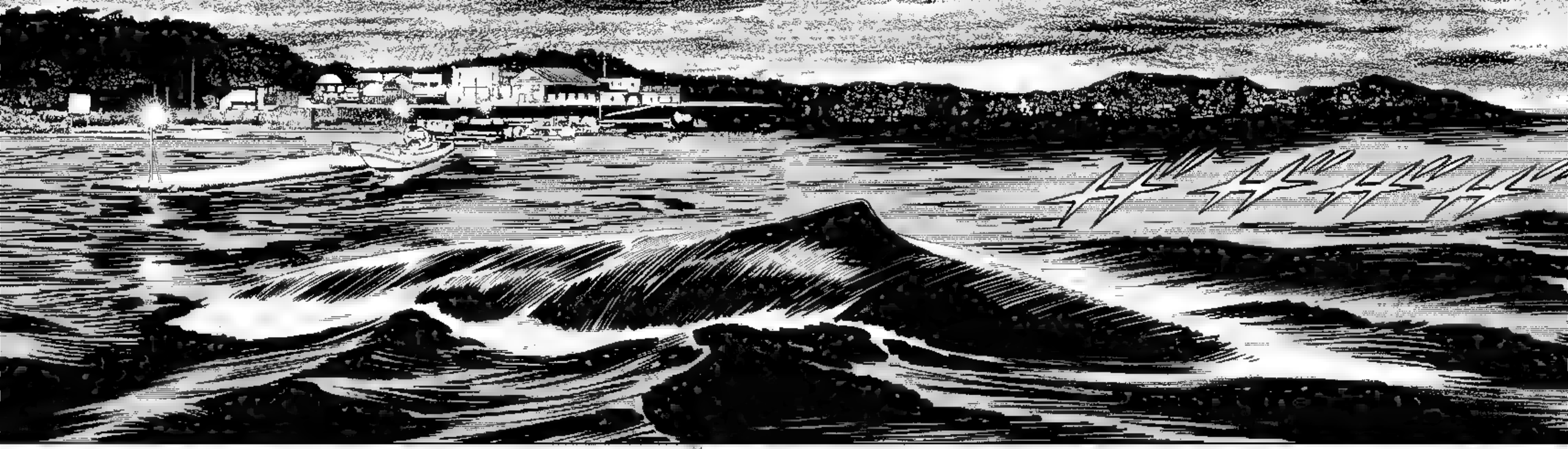
Though he was told not to, Izanagi looked...!!

He then gave birth to the sun goddess Amaterasu, and having completed the world, retired.

Shocked at the disfigured appearance of his wife, Izanagi escaped from Yomi...

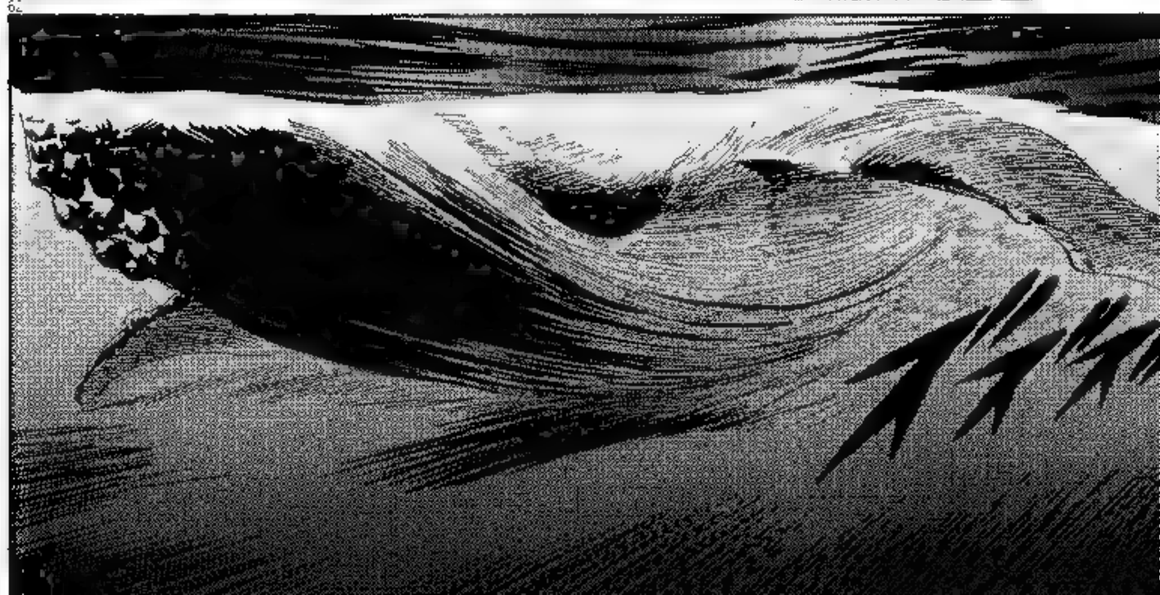
Or perhaps there was a similar legend that was passed down among the Seafolk...

.....


HHHHH






AAAA

IT'S A "BEACHED WHALE" !!

AOOOO
OOOOO
OOOH...
AOOOO
OOOOO
OOOH...

.....!!

# January 1st

WE'VE IDENTIFIED THE WHALE THAT BEACHED ITSELF AT EBISUHAMA, ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE, ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, TO BE A FEMALE HUMPBACK...

BEACHING WITH AN UNIDENTIFIABLE CAUSE, SUCH AS THIS, IS KNOWN AS STRANDING. THERE ARE AT LEAST A HUNDRED CASES OF STRANDING ANNUALLY IN JAPAN ALONE, INCLUDING DOLPHINS, BUT IT'S RARE FOR LARGE WHALES LIKE THIS ONE...

STAY AWAY FROM HER TAIL FIN! IT CAN KILL YOU IN ONE SWIPE!!

There aren't any machines in the area that can lift something weighing dozens of tons, Doctor!

A stranded whale can't support its own body weight! Her lungs will collapse, and she'll be unable to regulate her temperature...

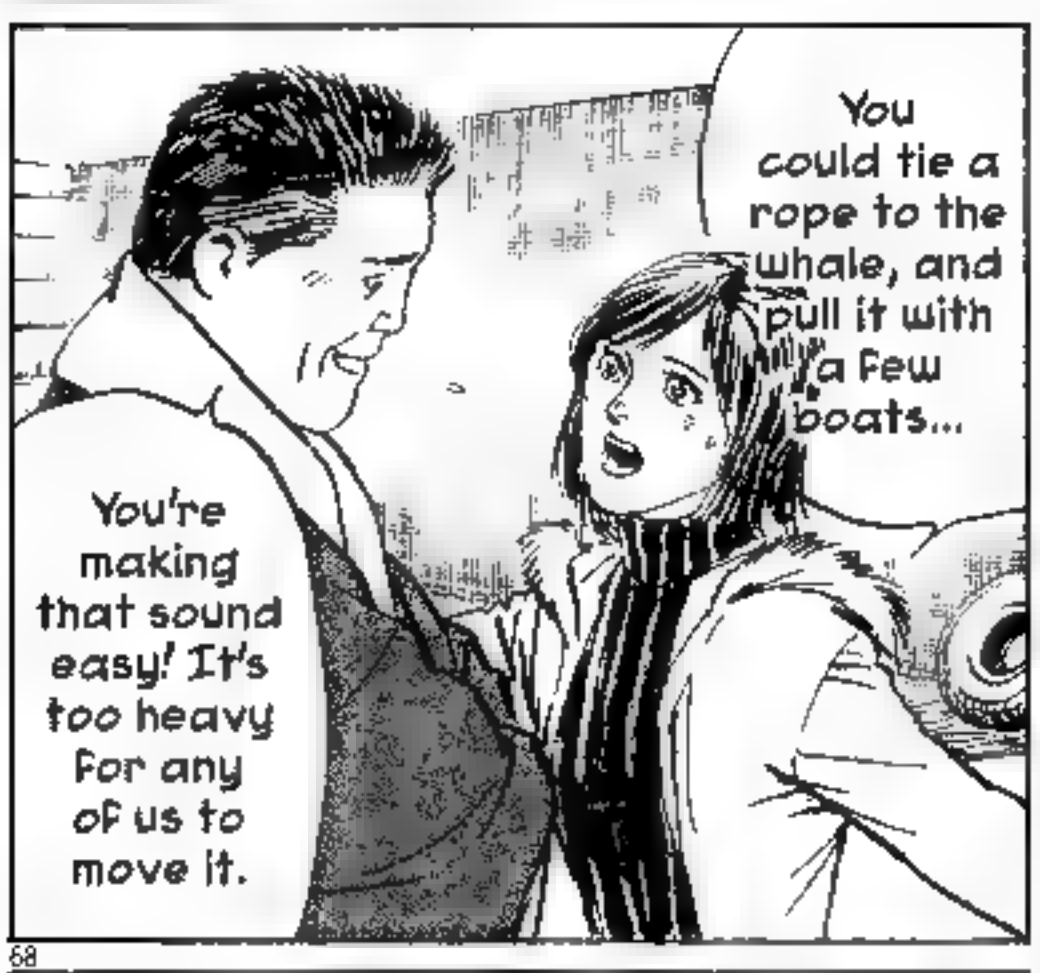
Uh... Is there any other way to save it?

Aooo oooooo ooh... Aooo oooo ooh...

Alright, go contact the Cetacean Center in Tokyo!

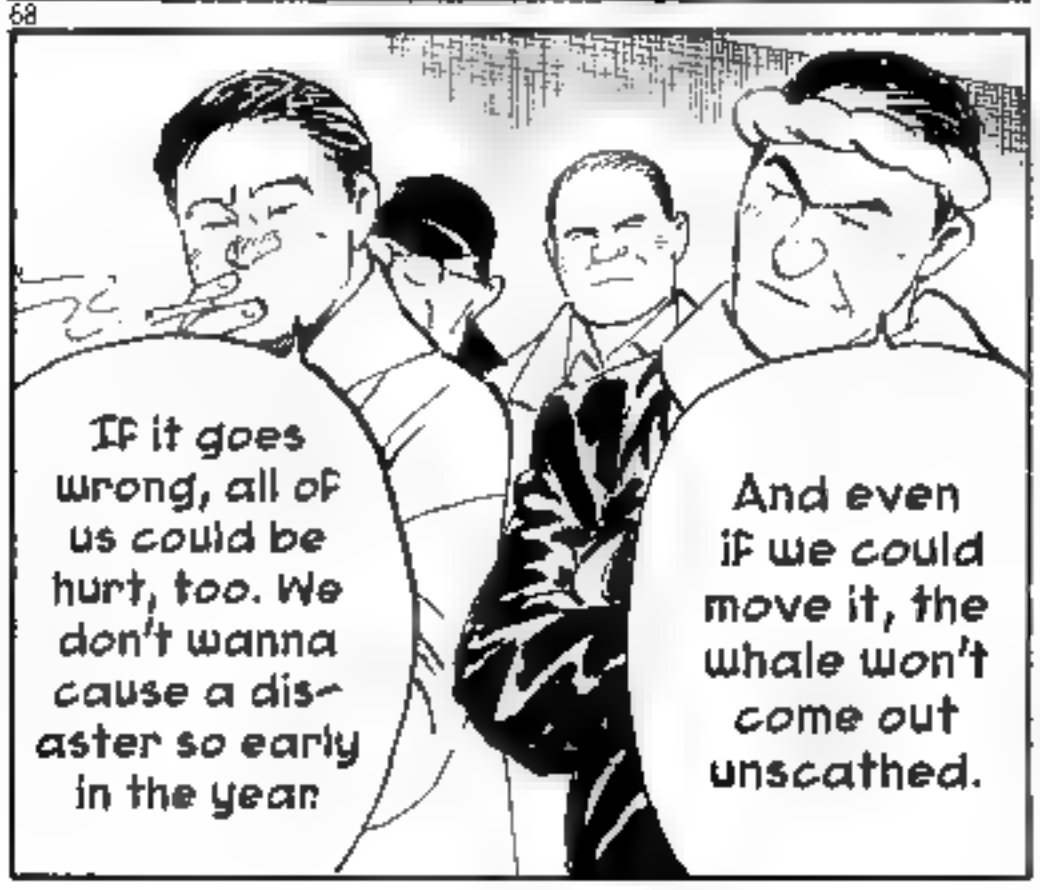
We have to lift her with a crane and return her to the ocean as soon as possible, or she'll die. Of course, I'm only a livestock veterinarian, so this is a bit outside my field.




You could tie a rope to the whale, and pull it with a few boats...
You're making that sound easy! It's too heavy for any of us to move it.




You want us to move the whale with our fishing boats!?


If it goes wrong, all of us could be hurt, too. We don't wanna cause a disaster so early in the year
And even if we could move it, the whale won't come out unscathed.

You haven't slept all night, have you, Minami...? This isn't a problem you can solve on your own. Go get some rest.

I just want to save that whale... I don't want her to die...

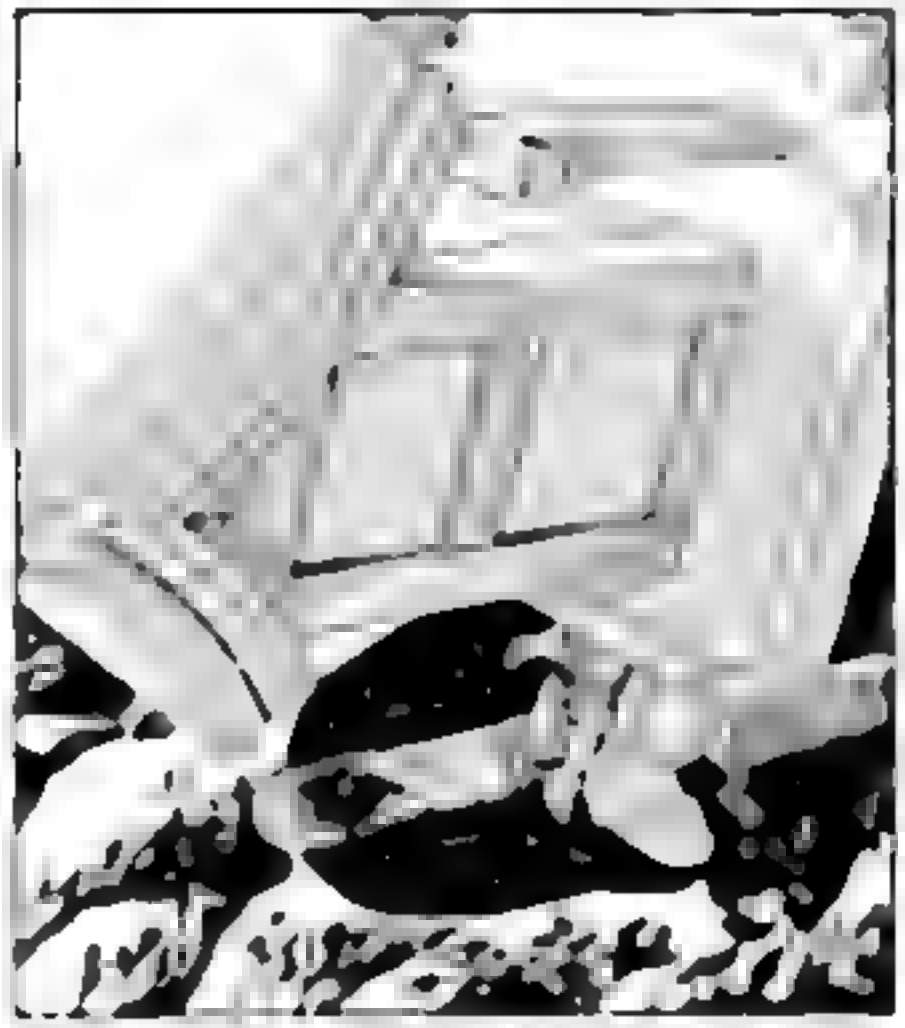


ﾉﾍﾞ ﾉﾍﾞ ﾍﾍﾞ ﾍﾍﾞ ﾉﾍﾞ ﾉﾞ...

And I want to atone for all the blood spilled on this beach since ancient times...

Atone ...?












AN-
OTHER
WHALE'S
COME
INTO
THE
BAY!
IT'S A
WHALE!!

A MALE !?

IT'S BIGGER THAN THIS ONE! IT COULD BE A MALE!

AOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOW!

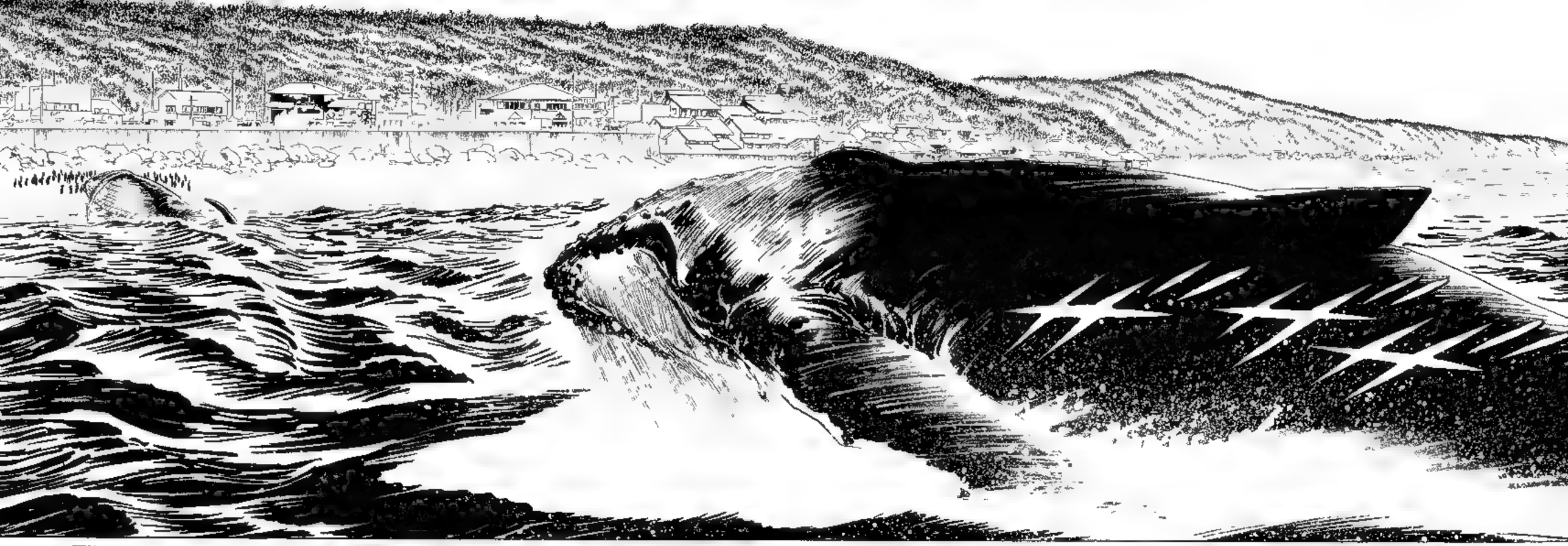
AOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOH!

AOOOOOOOOOOO
OOOOOOOOOOH...

AOOOOOOOOOOO
OOOOOOOOOOH!

THE MALE'S COMING CLOSER... THIS COULD BE A MASS STRANDING! IT MAY BEACH ITSELF NEXT TO THE FEMALE!!

THEY'RE MATES!



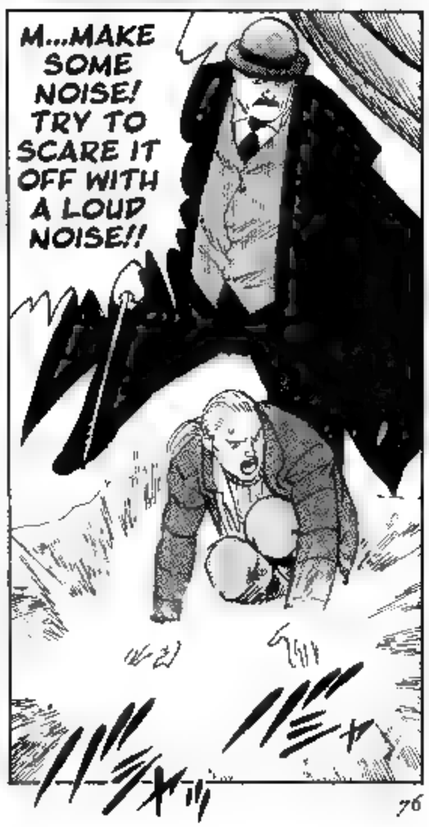

NOISE! BRING OUT ANYTHING YOU CAN THAT MAKES NOISE!!










M...MAKE SOME NOISE! TRY TO SCARE IT OFF WITH A LOUD NOISE!!







EBISU-HAMA IS ALREADY IN AN UPROAR FIRST THING IN THE NEW YEAR!

AH... I'M SEEING A LONG LINE OF CARS HEADING NORTH! IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL TRYING TO SEE THE WHALE!

THE OTHER WHALE IS ATTEMPTING TO BEACH, BUT THE PEOPLE ARE DESPERATELY TRYING TO STOP IT!

AOOOOOOOOO
OOOOOOOOH..

78

HE'S COMING BACK!!

DON'T COME HERE !!

STAY BACK !!

79

81

But...

You understand, Yuji? Now go help the other Fishers!

F... Father ...!?

What about the boat ...!?



If it doesn't even have the strength to let the crane pick it up, we may as well just...

That's too slow! It's already been a day and a half I don't know if it'll last till morning...

It looks like there's a heavy-duty crane from Kanazawa coming in first thing tomorrow...

As long as the female's alive, the male will try to approach it over and over

They say that when a female was killed by humans and left on a beach, they watched over her from the sea for two straight days

There are many species of marine mammals that are deeply sympathetic. Animals like the Steller's Sea Cow, which went extinct in the 18th Century, would even gather around their injured kindred

January 2nd

ゴルゴ13

AOOOOOOOOH...

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DOCTOR? CAN WE LIFT HER!?

.....

OH, NO! THE MALE'S COMING BACK!!

AOOOOOOOO OOOOOOOH!


FA-
THER
...!?

FORGIVE US, GOD OF THE SEA THAT BECAME A GOD OF THE MOUN-TAIN!!

AIII EEE EEE EEE EEE EEE !!

WAA AAA AAA AAU GH!!

AHHHHHH!

AOOOOOOHHHHH!

AOOOOHHH HHHHHHHH!

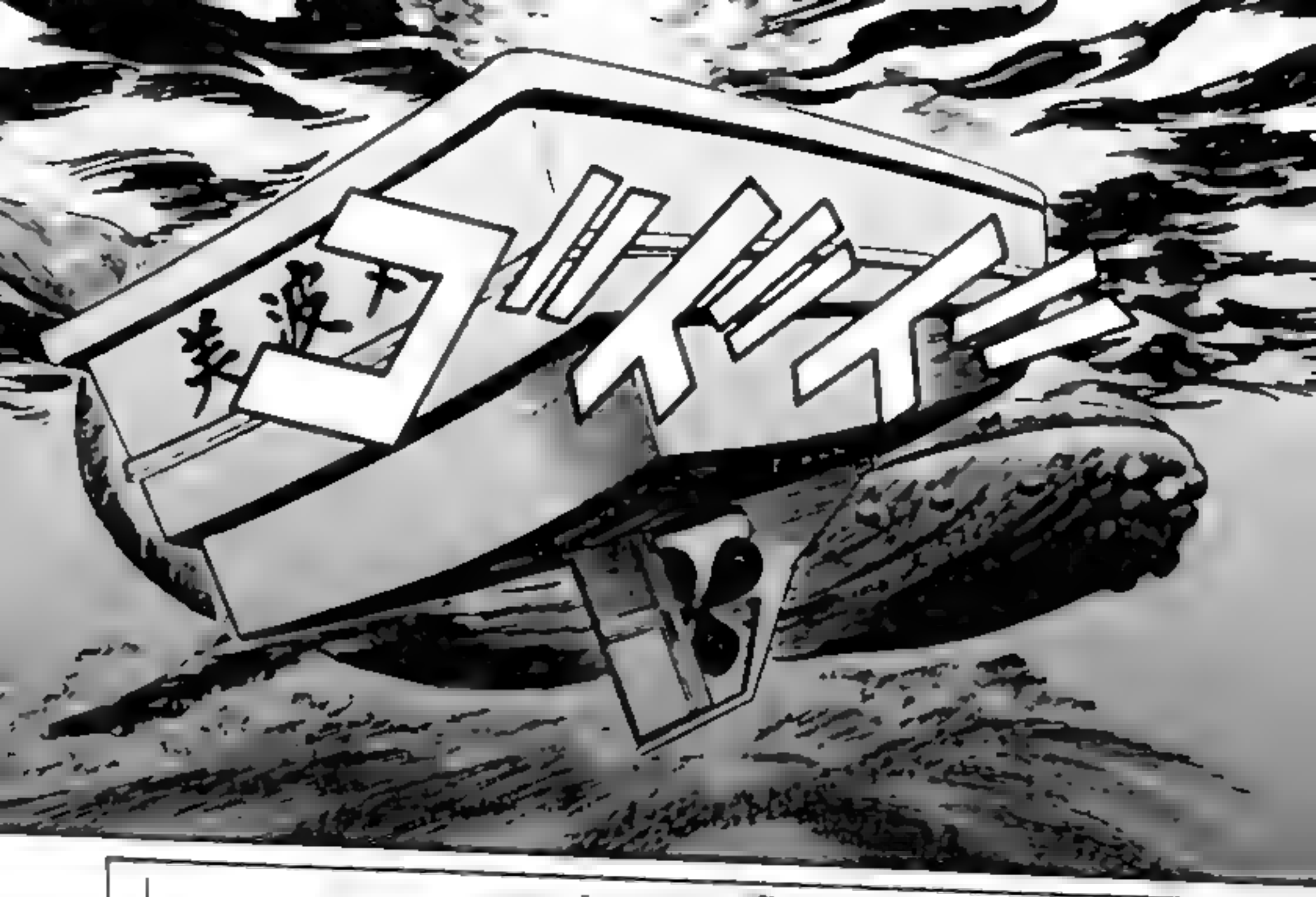
!

YUJI! SINK IT!!

88

.....

90


美濃下

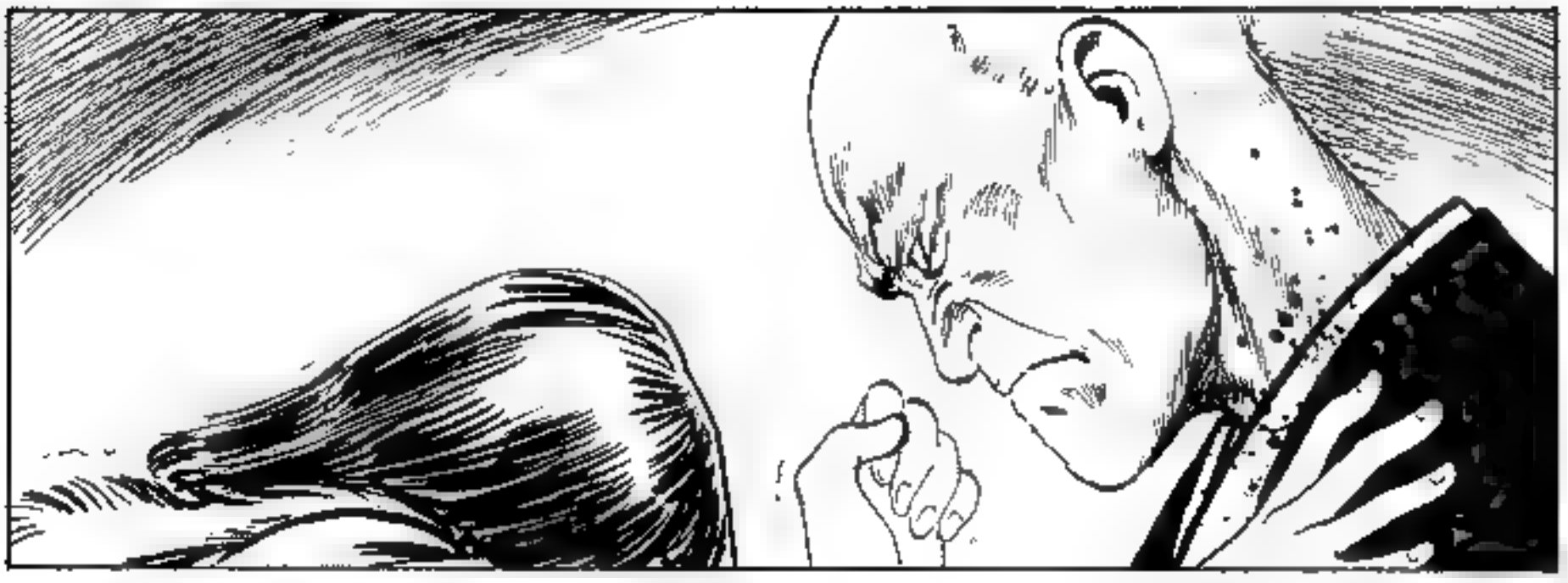

AOOOOHHHHHHHHHH!

……

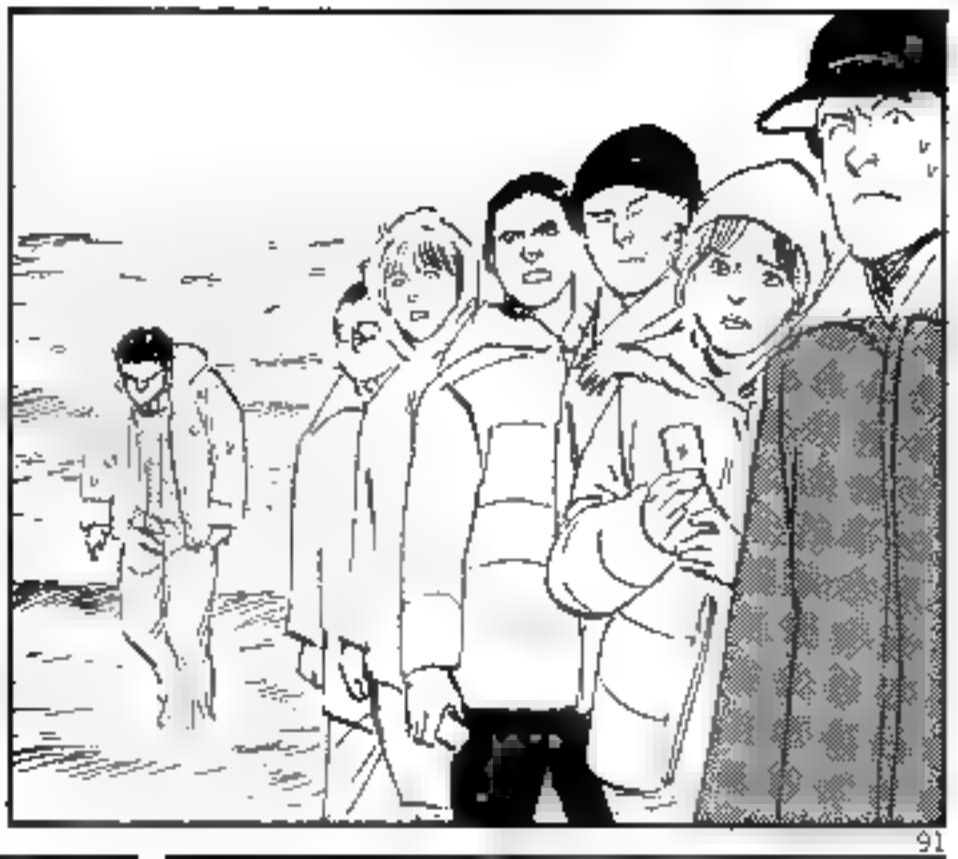
1

AHHHHH HHHHHH HHHHHH!

WAA AAA AAA AAA AAA AH!















The male remained in the bay for the next three days, but eventually returned to the open ocean

Just as Izanagi accepted his wife's death and left the Land of Yomi...

The male whale approached the shore in pursuit of the stranded female... And the seafolk, when not in want of food, desperately tried to prevent that...

There must have been a similar event in ancient times.

The people were moved, and told of the whale's compassion... Before long, it became the "Myth of Izanagi and Izanami", the first love story of Japanese mythology...

One week later, they abandoned their plans to dispose of the whale carcass at sea, and decided to bury it on the beach.

However...

What they found was a full whale skeleton... Not dismembered, and left as it was.

in this same land...

The same thing must have happened long ago...

94




But there were many voices of sympathy, across all races...
This case was reported overseas, where it was criticized as an act of brutality by the whaling race of the Japanese..




Amamehagi, Uchiura,
Ishikawa Prefecture





# THE OAK RECORDS OF PROFESSOR MINAKATA

## CHAPTER 26

PRESENTED BY

HOKUTO NO GUN

TRANSLATED BY

SYSTEMATICCHAOS

EDITING BY

HIGHTIDE AND KAZUHIKO

PROOFREADING BY

DESTORYERRING


CHAPTER 27:
BATH FOR
GEESE

Days and months are the travellers of eternity
The years that pass are also but travellers in time.
Preface to "Oku no Hosomichi", by Matsuo Basho



SIGN:
AOMORI
AIRPORT











Sotogahama,
East Tsugaru District,
Aomori Prefecture

SIGN: WARM

Oooh... Hot... Hot...

茶 COFEE

¥110 ¥110

カチ!カチ!

I...I'm sorry, Dr. Imibe! The vending machine's too far away...

FORGET IT! I'LL CATCH A COLD IF I STAY HERE ANY LONGER. GO HAIL A TAXI!

THIS IS LUKE-WARM !!

I wonder if we'll see a flock of geese...

A "Kari-buro"?

Either way, I've never heard of it!

Yes, as in the Bath For Geese. It's more commonly pronounced "Ganburo", but that sounds too much like the face paint that yamanba girls wear, and I just prefer the sound of "Kariburo".

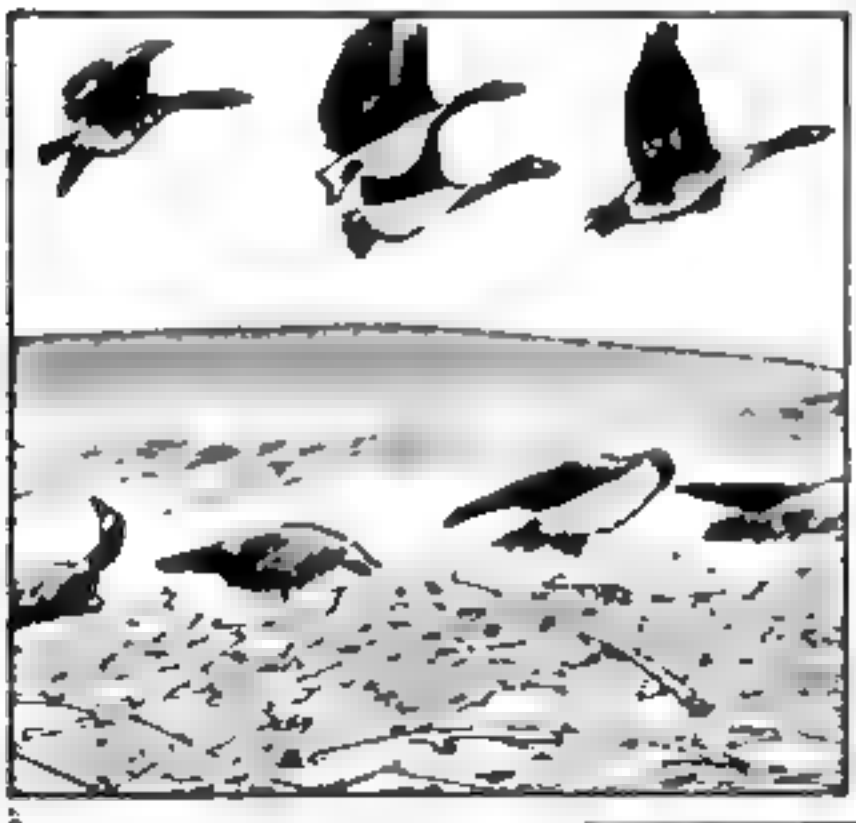
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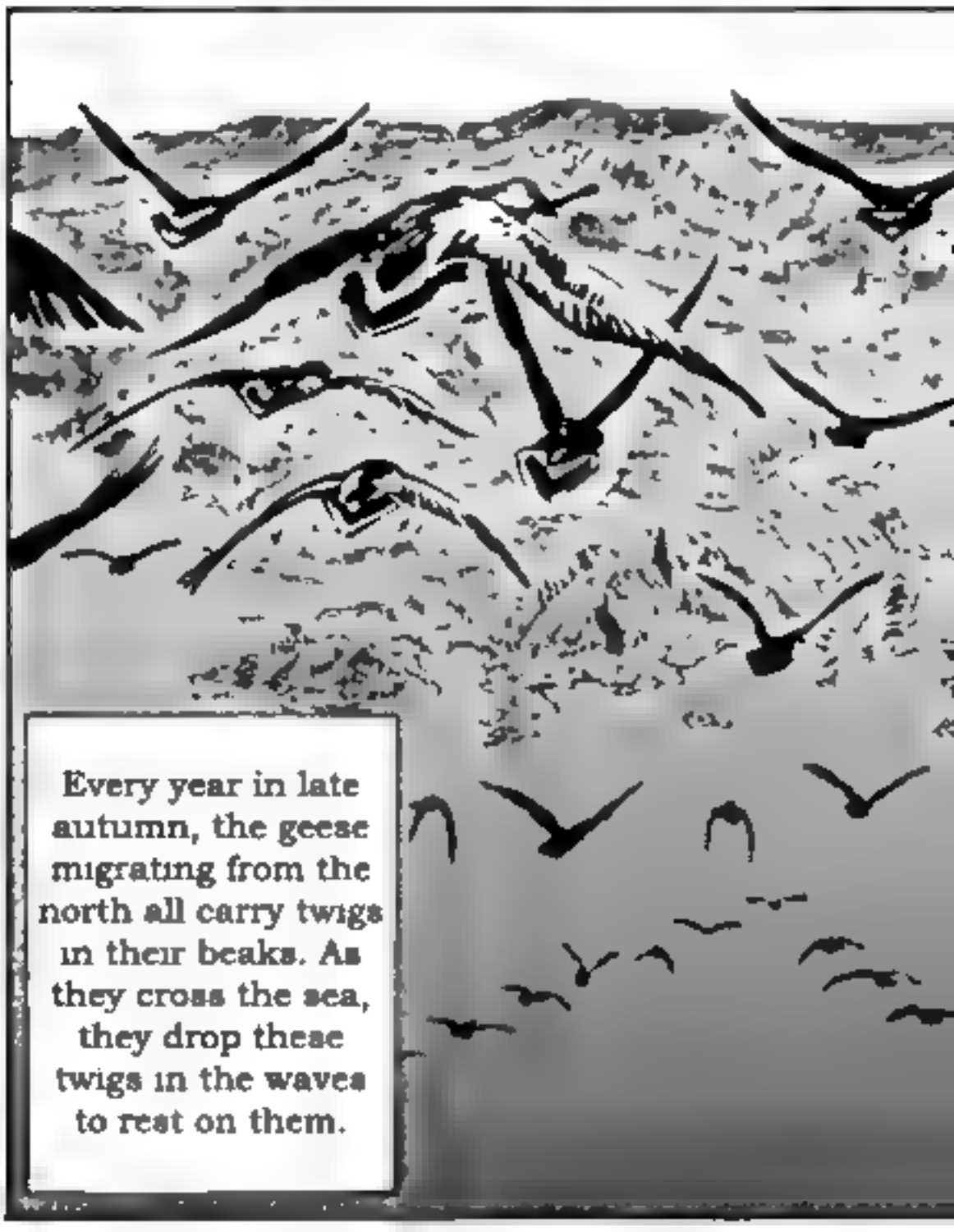
I've lived in Tsugaru all my life, and I never heard of it...

But isn't there a famous legend about it in the Soto-gahama area?





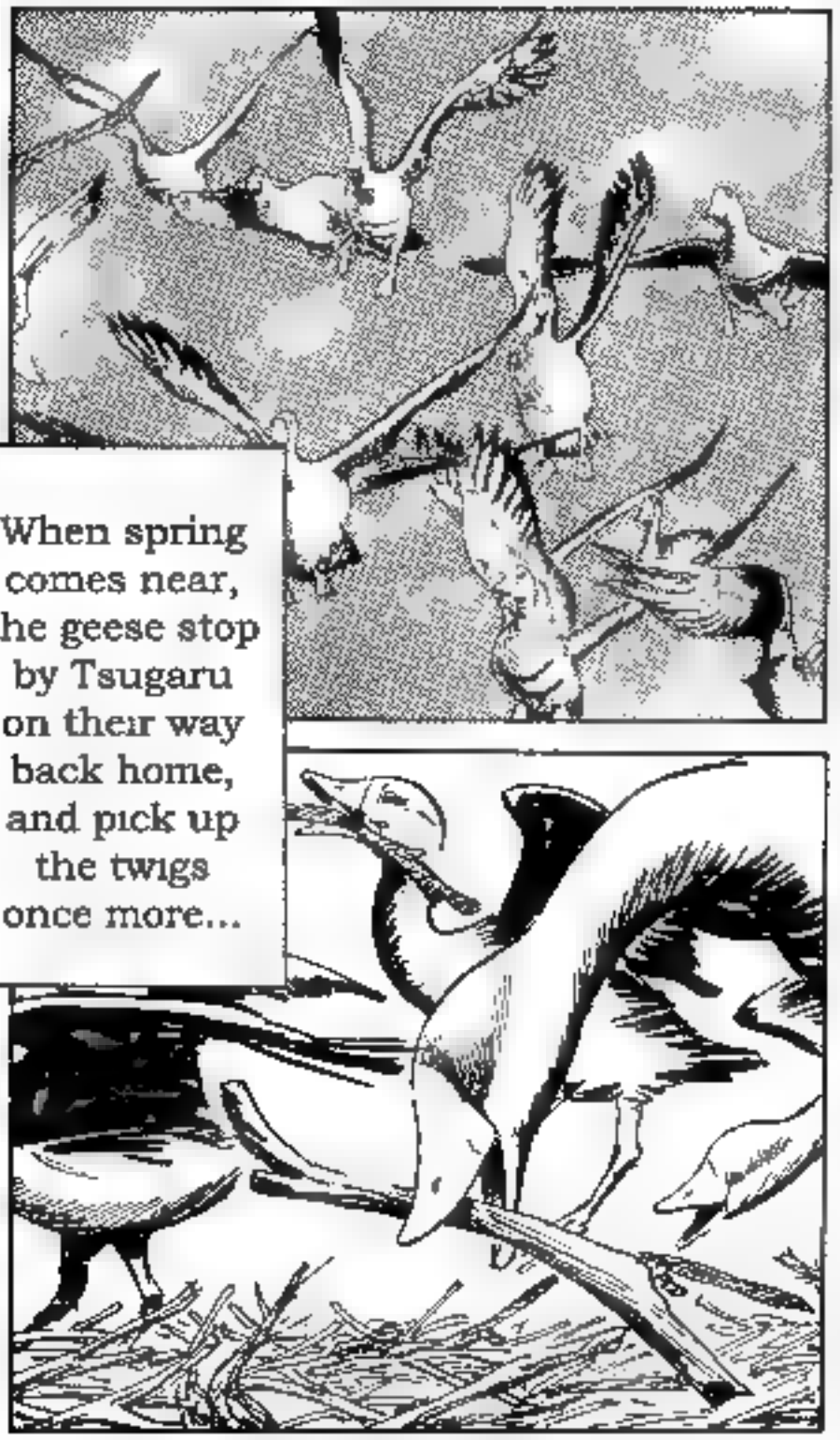


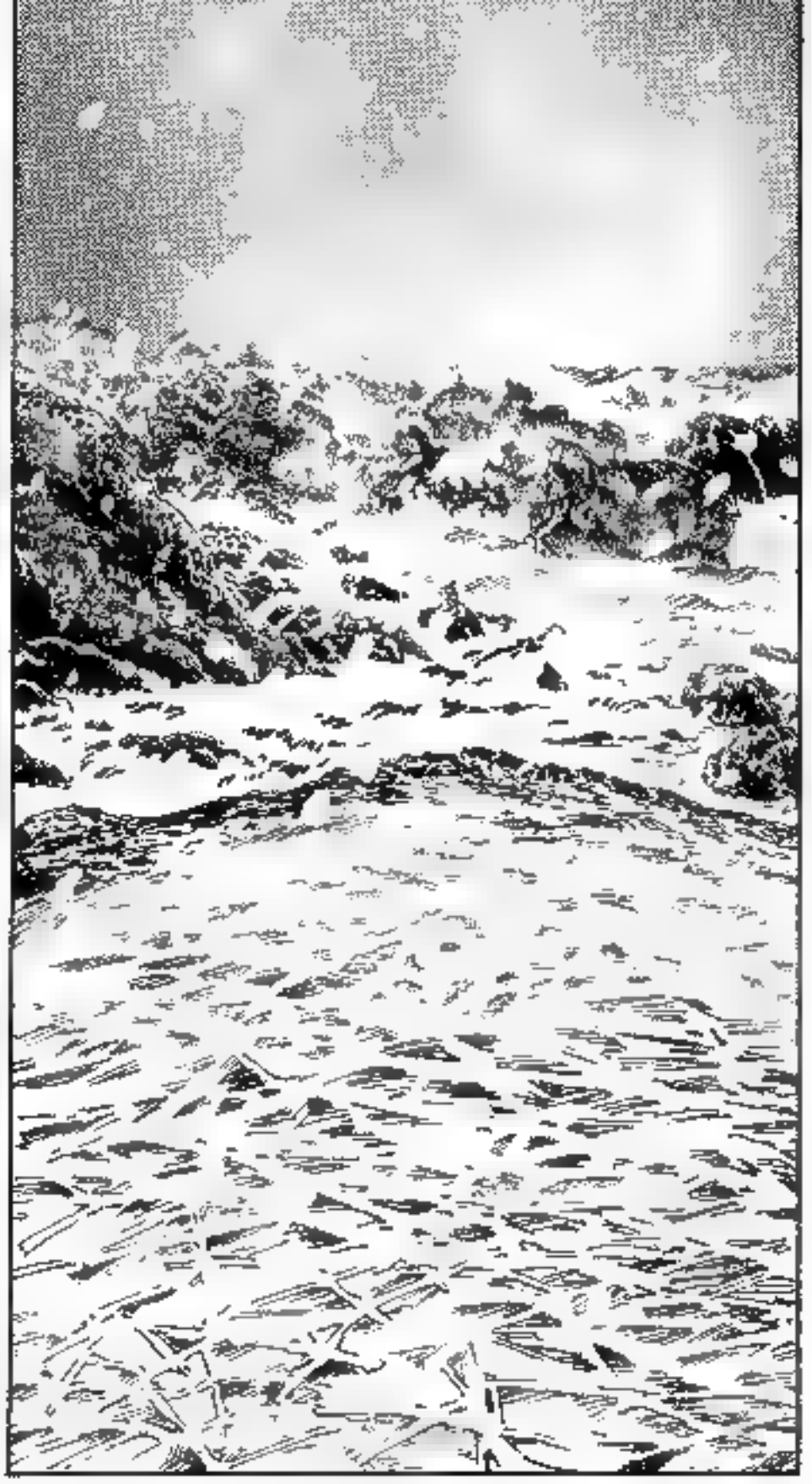


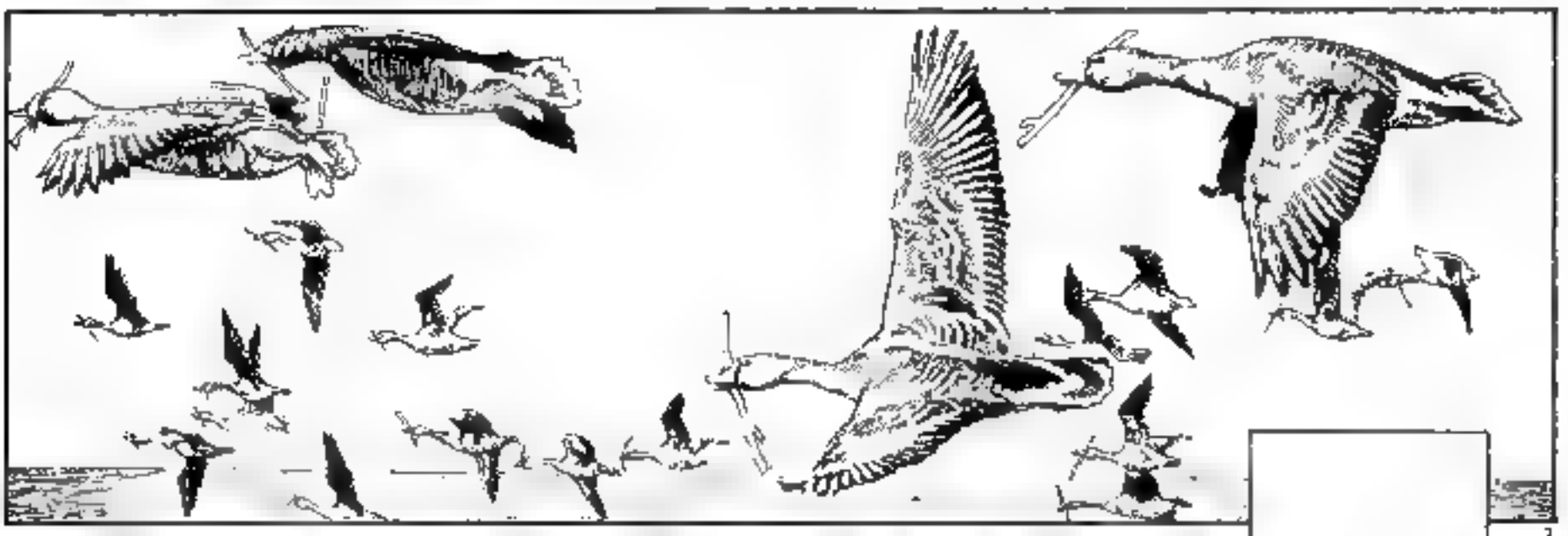
Every year in late autumn, the geese migrating from the north all carry twigs in their beaks. As they cross the sea, they drop these twigs in the waves to rest on them.

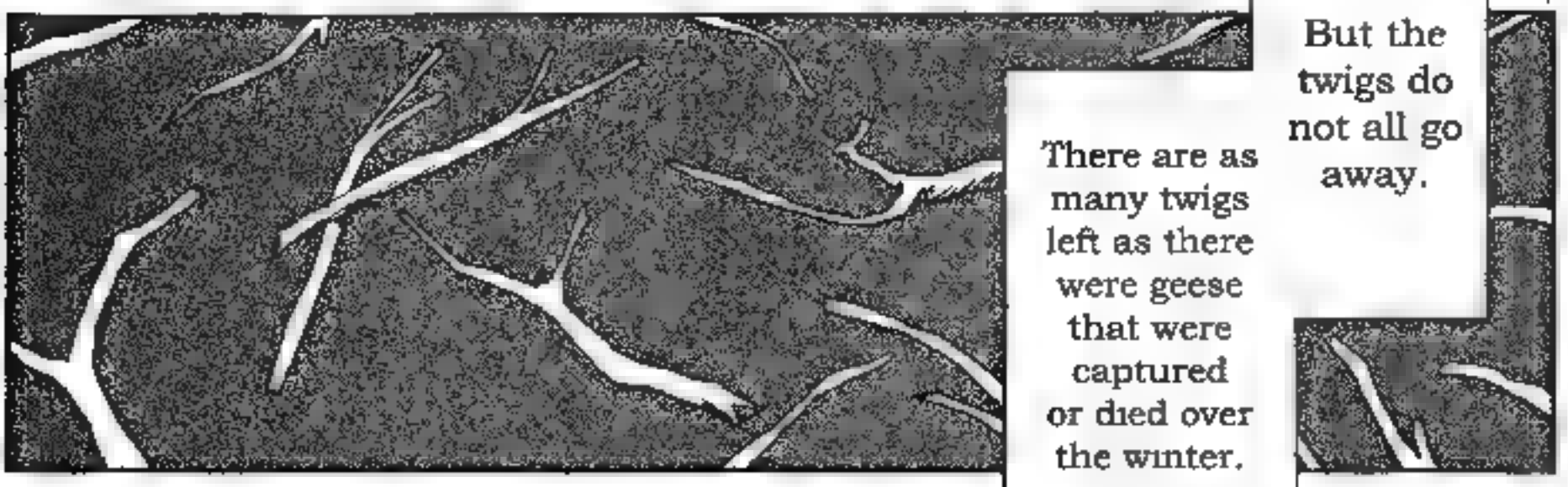


The geese then leave the twigs in Sotogahama, Tsugaru, before dispersing to the rest of Japan to spend the winter ..


When spring comes near, the geese stop by Tsugaru on their way back home, and pick up the twigs once more...






But the twigs do not all go away.
There are as many twigs left as there were geese that were captured or died over the winter.

One for every goose's life...

They say that people would make a bath with the twigs that they gathered in the spring.

The Bath for Geese ...

A modest memorial for the geese that never returned...

This story was well known among the writers of Edo, and was often used as a seasonal word in haiku. It was even a theme in Rakugo...

I...It sure is a solemn story. It sounds like it would fit the harsh winters of Tsugaru...

But it looks like it wasn't originally a legend of Tsugaru, just like the driver said.

Huuuuuuuh!?

The Chinese philosophical text "Huainanzi" has a proverb, "Like a goose bearing a reed", and there are similar stories in other parts of Japan.

And in the first place, the idea that geese cross the ocean carrying twigs isn't factual. It's a complete fable.

But weren't you the one that insisted on the "bath for geese" of Tsugaru for next month's serial?

Y...You're kidding! You mean it's complete bogus

Why was it considered a legend of Tsugaru, when anywhere else would do...?

The West Coast of the Tsugaru Peninsula... Like the "Sotogahama" on the East Coast, this place was once called "Sottoga-

Fukaura Town,
West Tsugaru District
Engaku Temple

Ship Ema?

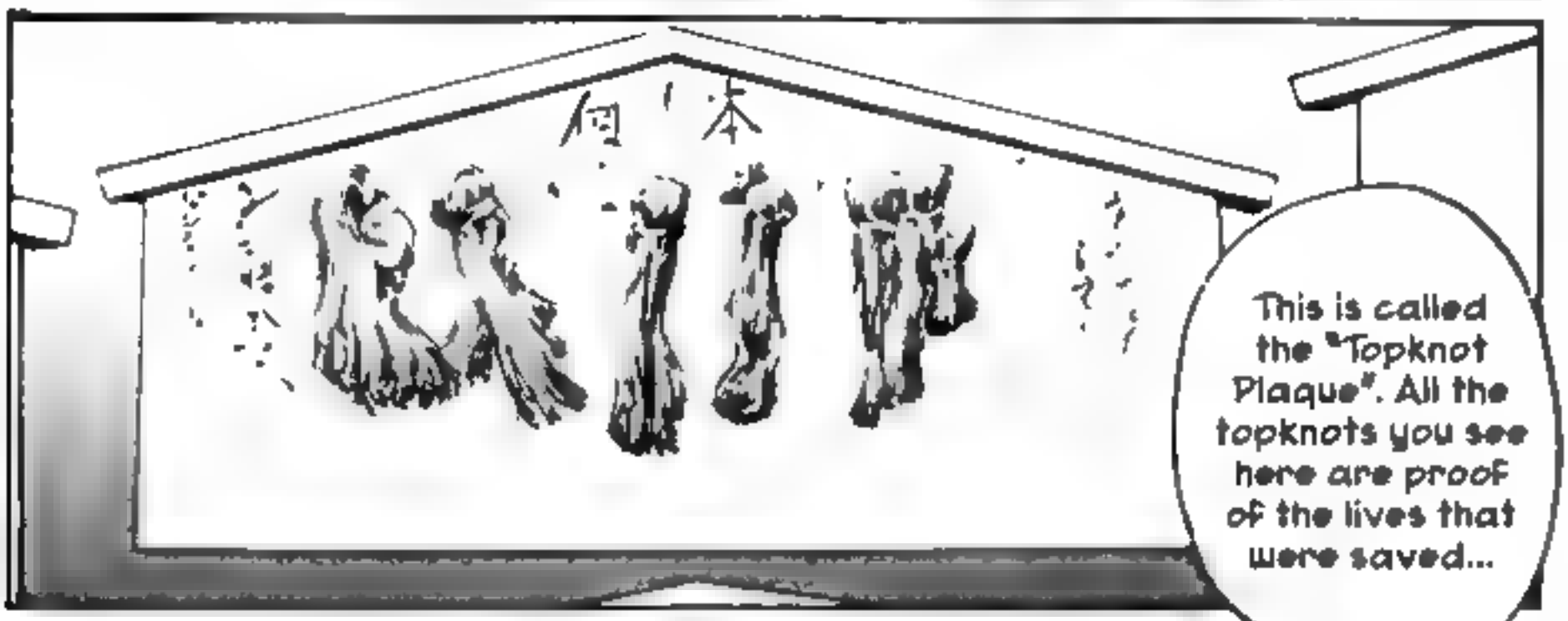
This temple was constructed long ago, but it's famous nationwide for its Edo-period "Ship Ema".

It's a votive plaque that ship-owners, particularly of cargo ships, would offer to the temple, wishing for a safe voyage

Japanese ships were vulnerable to storms, so there were many cases where they never returned, correct?

Sometimes they were lucky enough to drift to Sottogahama alive, and they offered their topknots to the temple.

That's right. Shipwrecked sailors would often cut off their precious topknots in order to petition the gods for help.



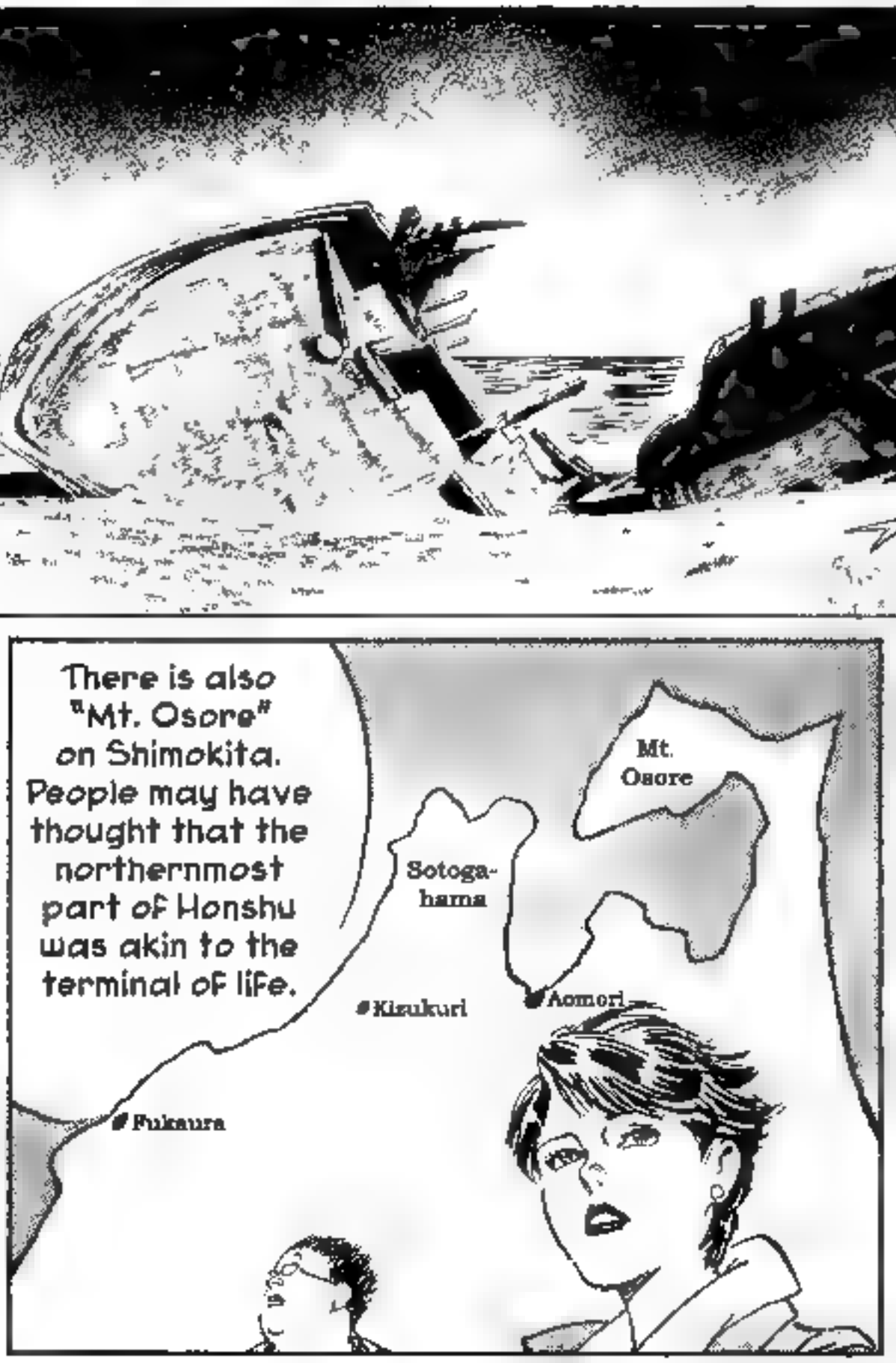

This is called the "Topknot Plaque". All the topknots you see here are proof of the lives that were saved...

This Ship Ema and the Top-knot Plaque may have been like the twigs carried by geese...


The lives...



15


There is also "Mt. Osore" on Shimokita. People may have thought that the northernmost part of Honshu was akin to the terminal of life.
Mt. Osore
Sotoga-hama
Kizukuri
Aomori
Fukaura


Tsugaru is a place where many things from the Sea of Japan drift ashore. Both shipwrecked people, and the remains of wrecked ships...

.....

I...I see! That kind of image may have lent itself to the legend of the Bath for Geese...

Yokotsuki, do you mind going ahead to the inn? I'd like to take a walk on my own.

Huh? B... But...

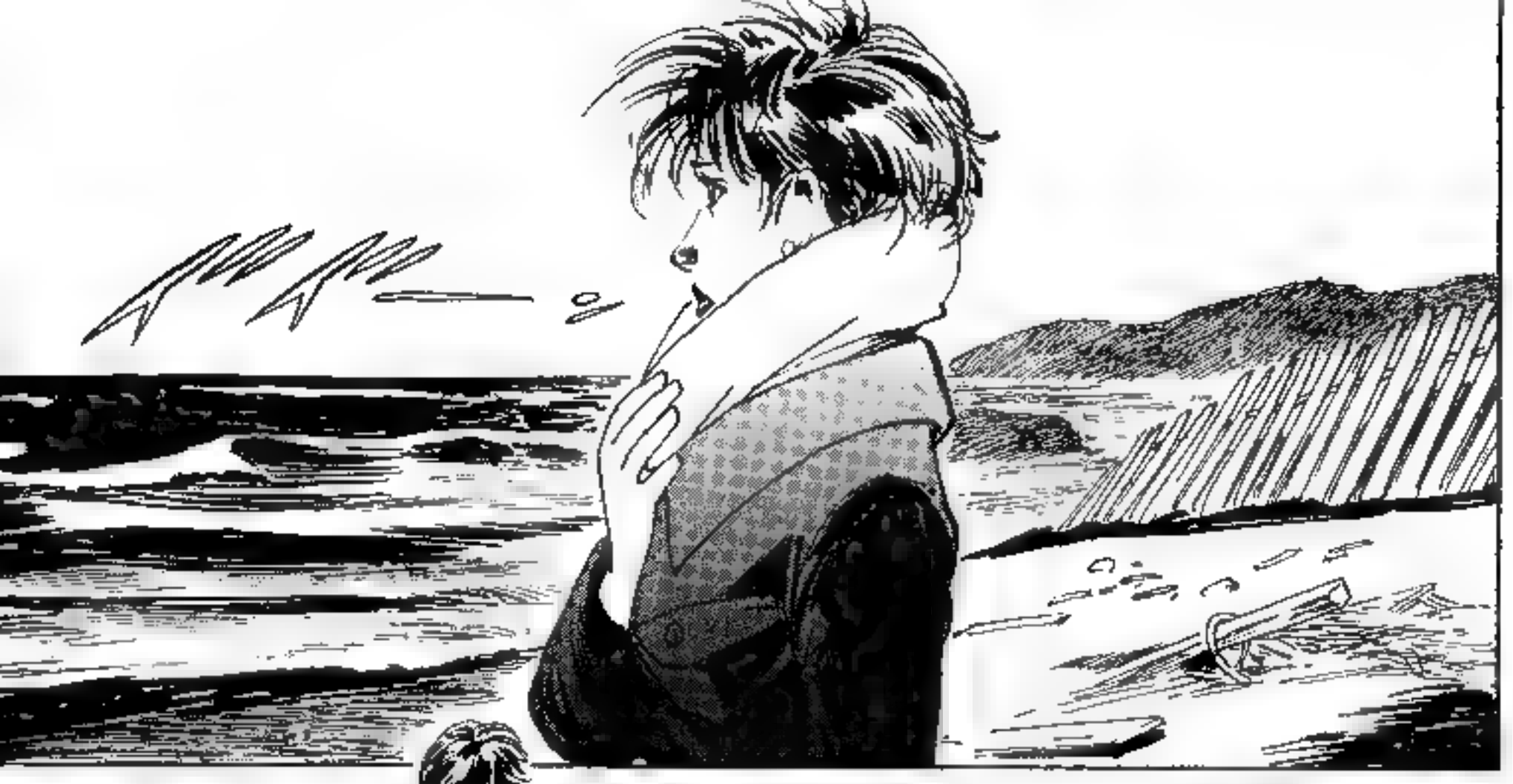


JUST GO!!

...I think the specialty around here was "Seaweed Noodles".

She's usually harsh, but even more so this time...

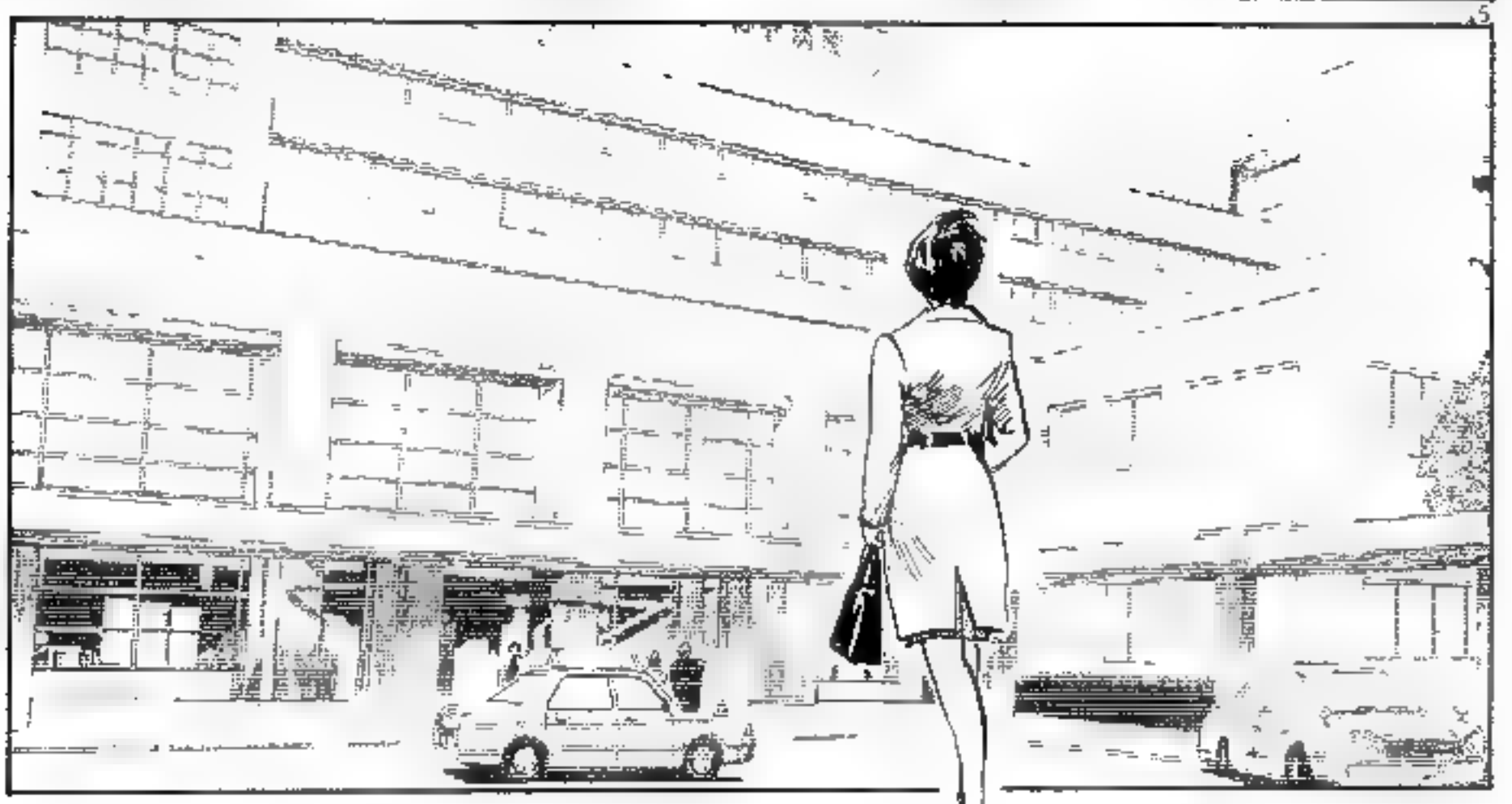
It's tough being an editor for a lady writer











Ovari-
an...?

It's right ovarian cancer.

This may be related to your poor physical condition during your period.

Fortunately, it's still in an early stage, so we only have to excise the right ovary. It's not a particularly difficult operation.

.....



IF we find cancer cells in the other ovary during the operation,

we may have to excise both ovaries and the uterus itself, due to the risk of metastasis.

How-
ever
...

This is only in the worst case. But if that does happen, we'd like you to give us the go-ahead.

Excise the ovaries and the uterus ...?

YOU'RE SAYING... THAT I MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO HAVE CHILDREN WHETHER I WANT TO OR NOT, AREN'T YOU!?

You're single, right, Ms. Imibe Kana? Do you want to get married and have children in the future?

I'LL MAKE MY DECISION THEN!!

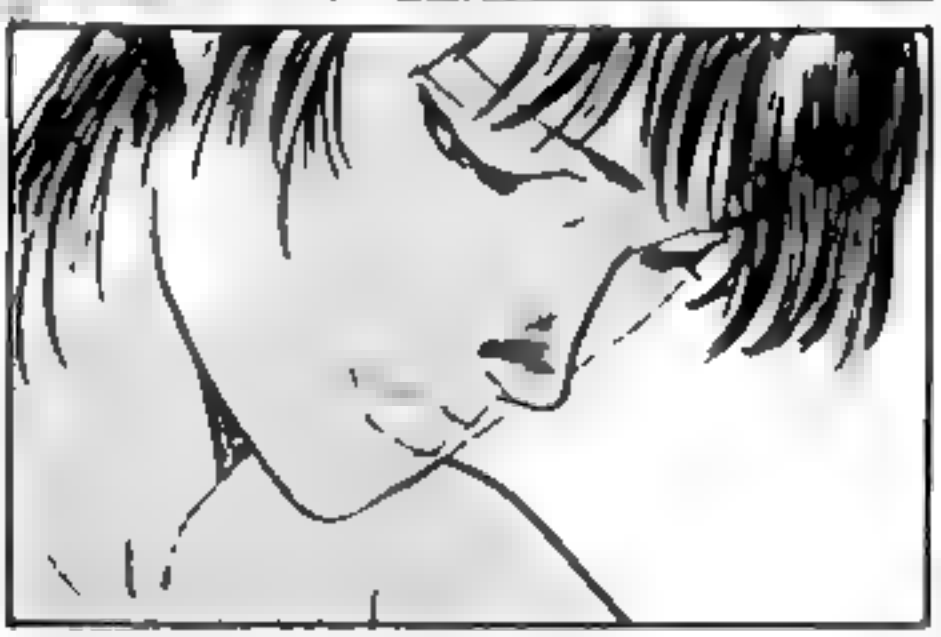
I'M GOING TO TOHOKU FOR RESEARCH TOMORROW, SO I'D LIKE THE OPERATION TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER IT'S DONE!

17









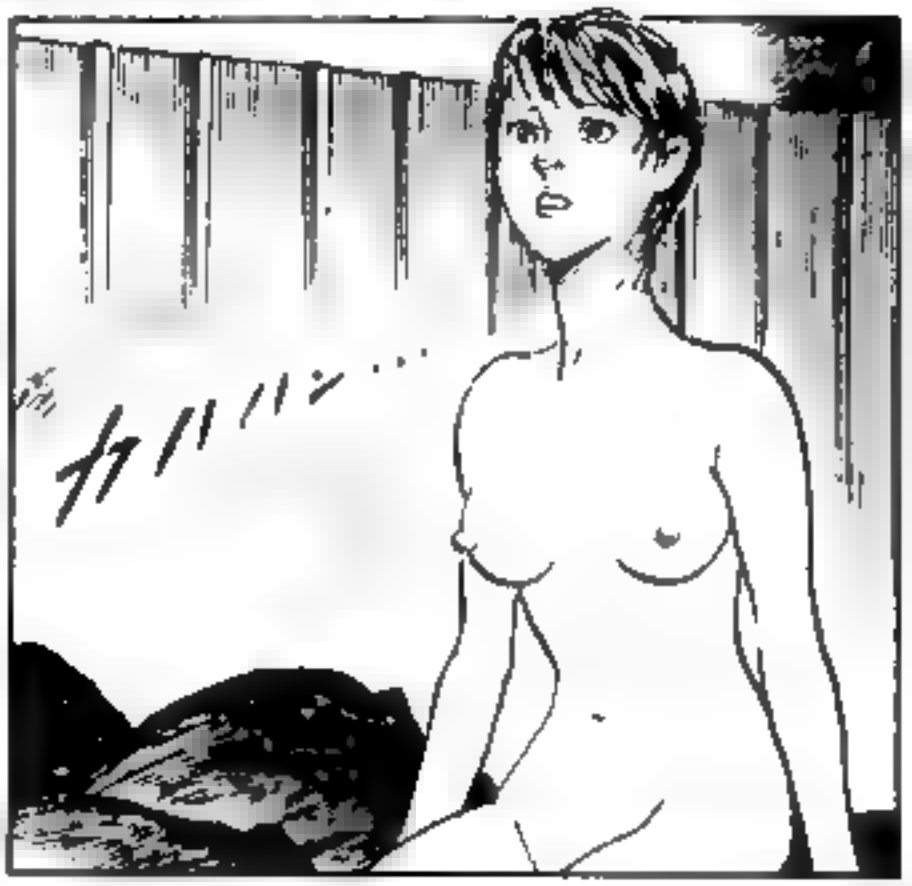


カリリン

カリリン

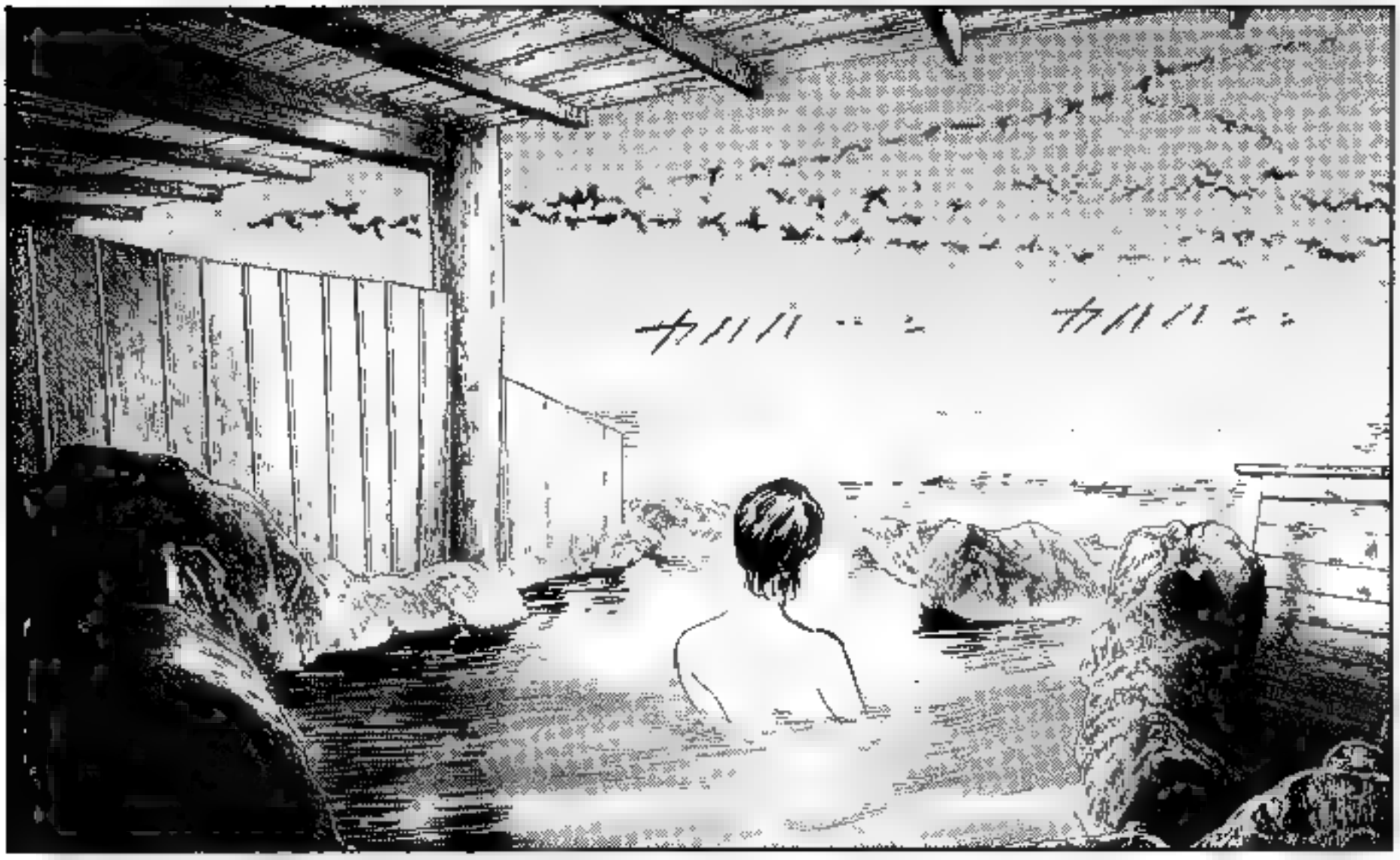
カリリン

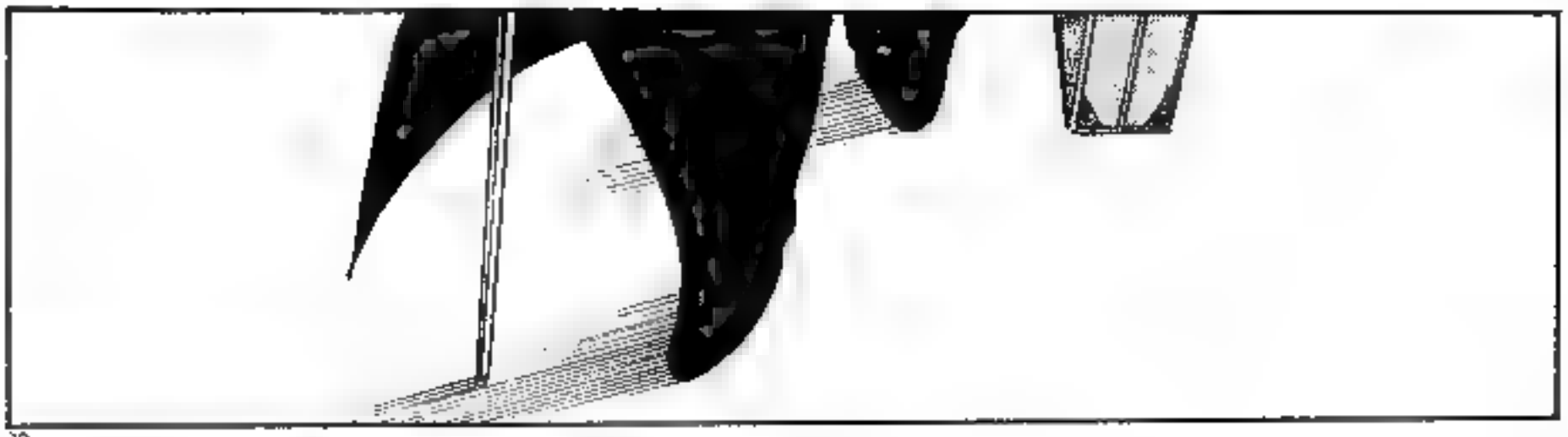


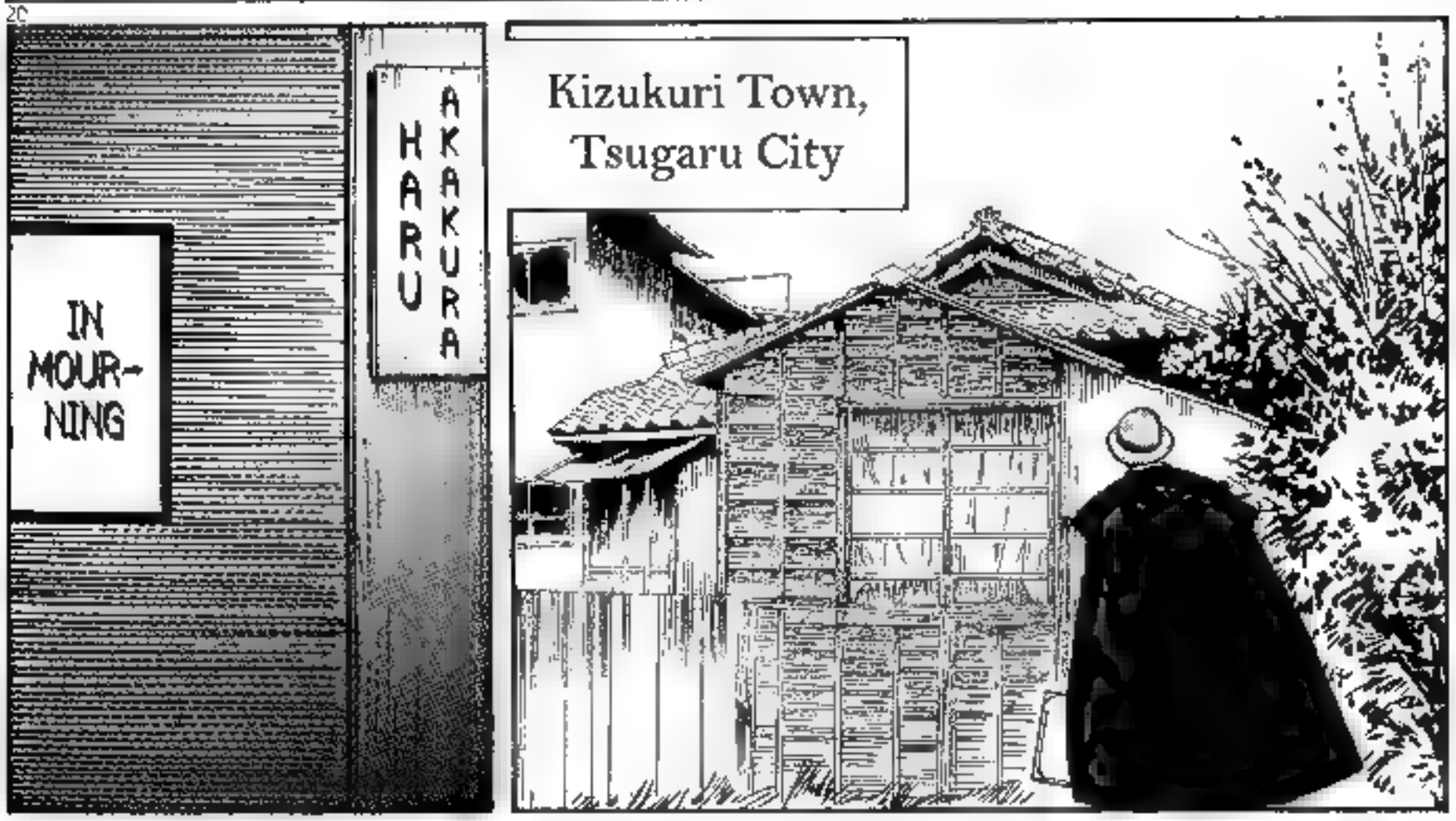




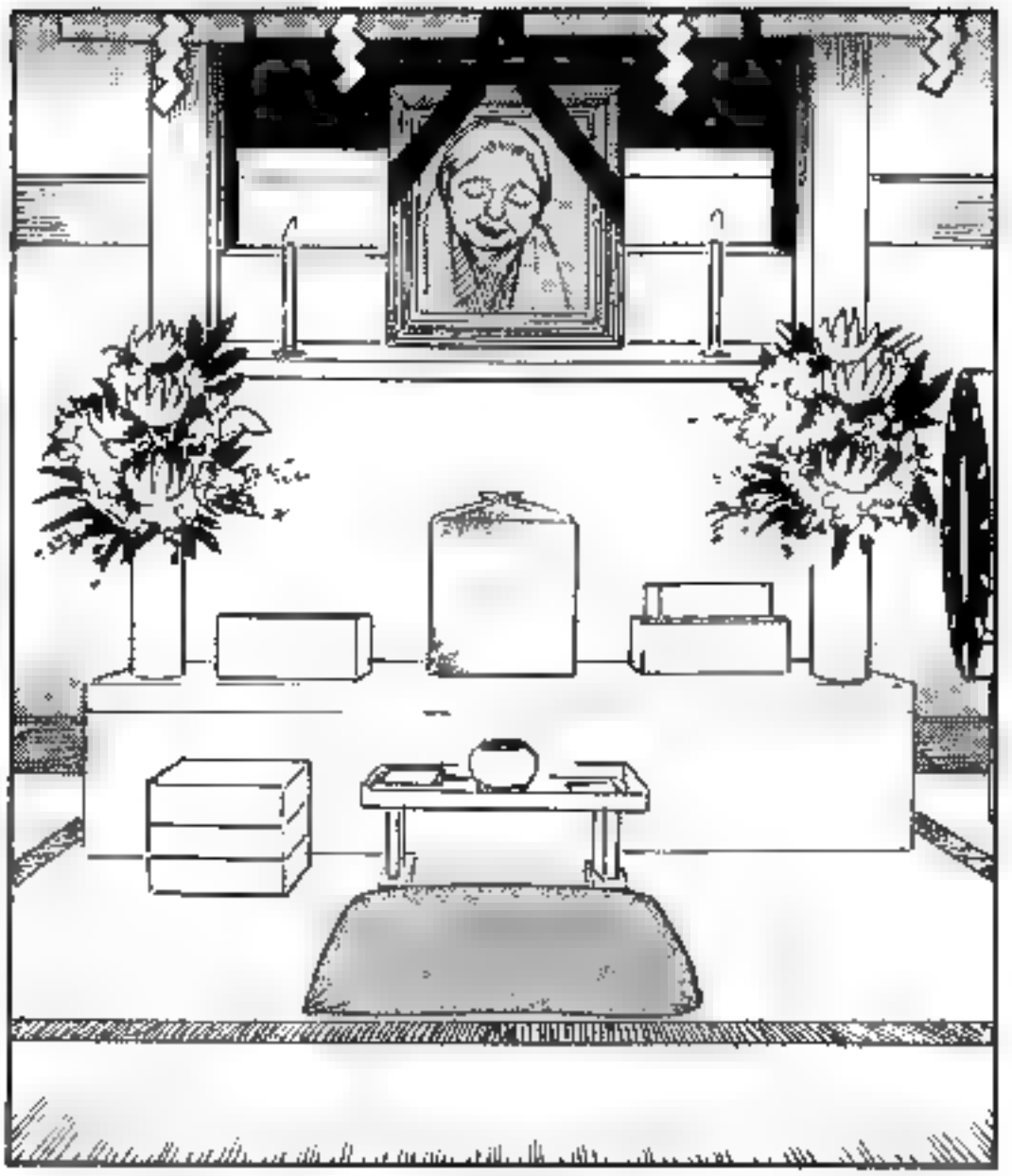



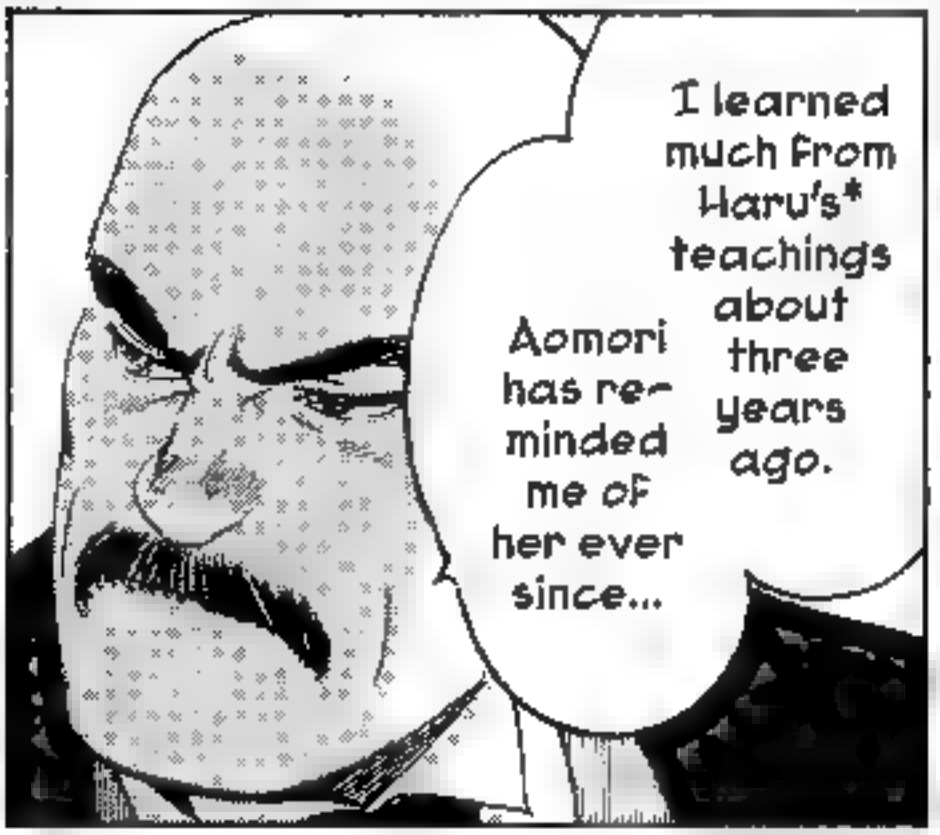


20











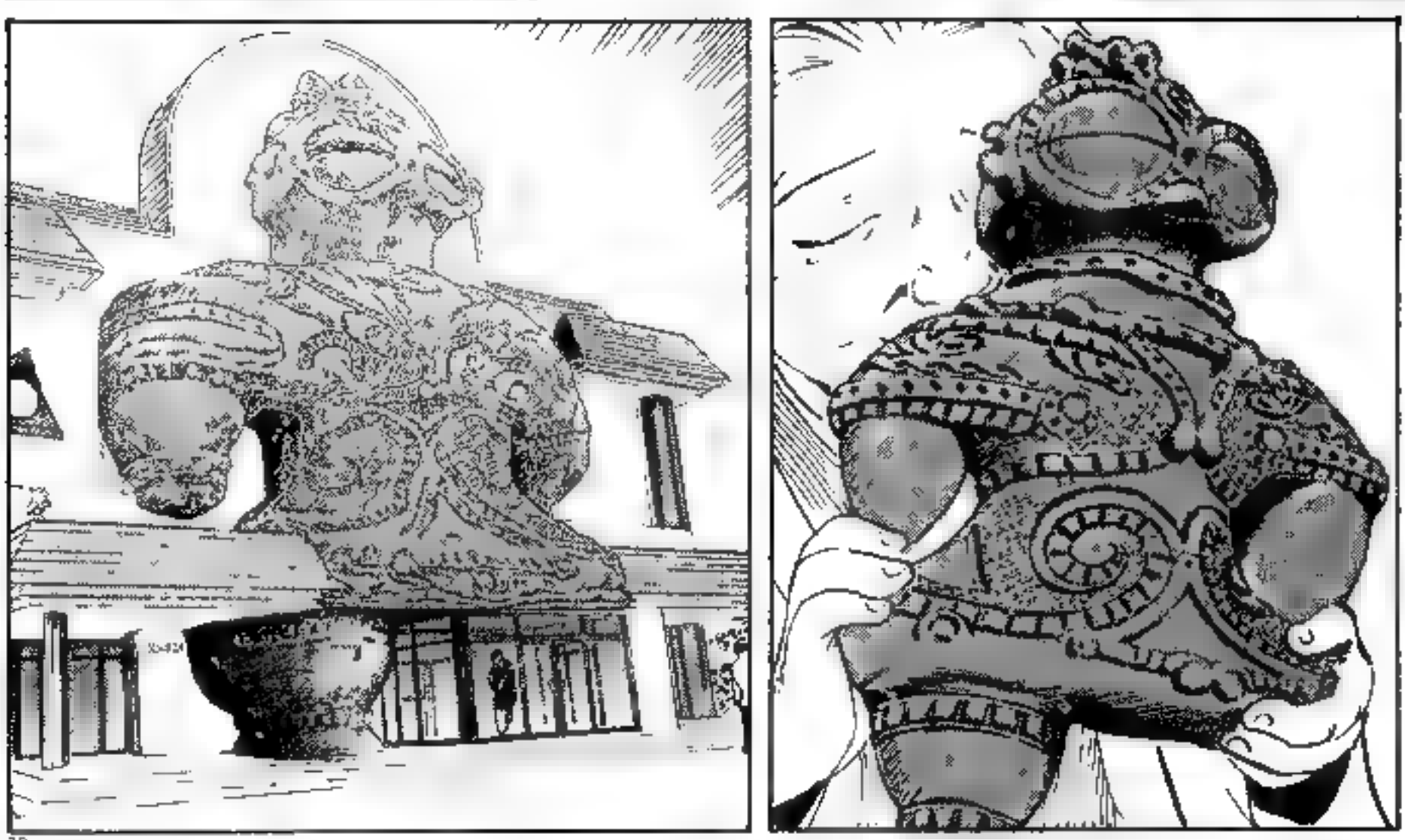




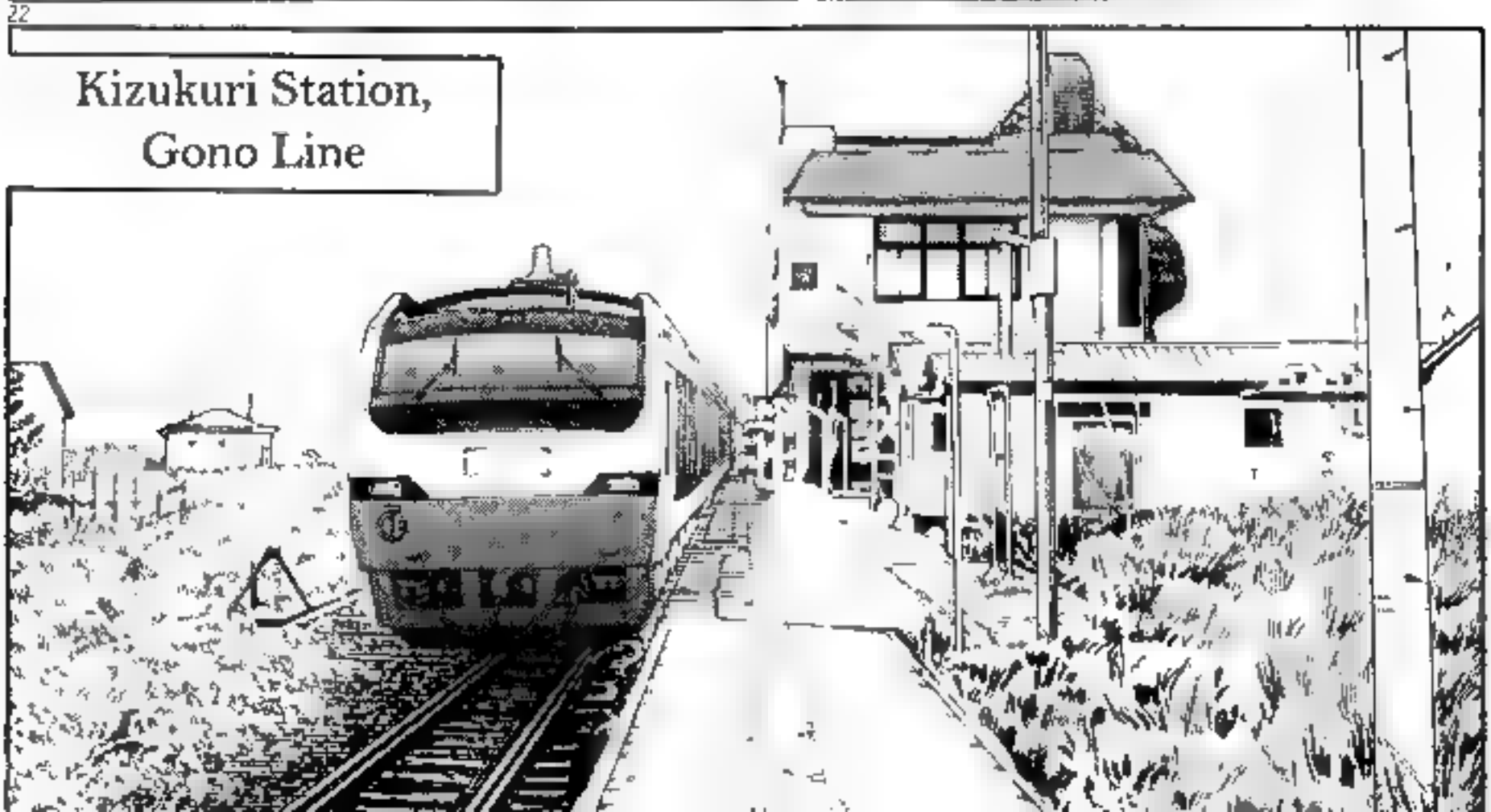


*SEE THE SPECIAL VOLUME "THE CASE RECORDS OF PROFESSOR MUNAKATA, COLLECTION 1", CHAPTER 1, "THE MEDIUM'S BLOODLINE"








Kizukuri Station,
Gono Line


Oh, I see.
There just happens to have a rapid for Aomori at the station now. Hurry and you can catch it.
!
23
Are you al-right?
Yes... Thank you kindly.

SIR, THE TRAIN'S ABOUT TO DEPART!

24

Geese...

25


Even on those nights
They yearn to rest on dead twigs,
The geese yet fly on
Kana

# THE OAKE RECORD OF PROFESSOR MUNAKATA

## CHAPTER 27

PRESENTED BY

HOKUTO NO GUN

TRANSLATED BY

SYSTEMATICCHAOS

EDITING BY

HIGHTIDE AND KAZUHIKO

PROOFREADING BY

DESTORYERRING

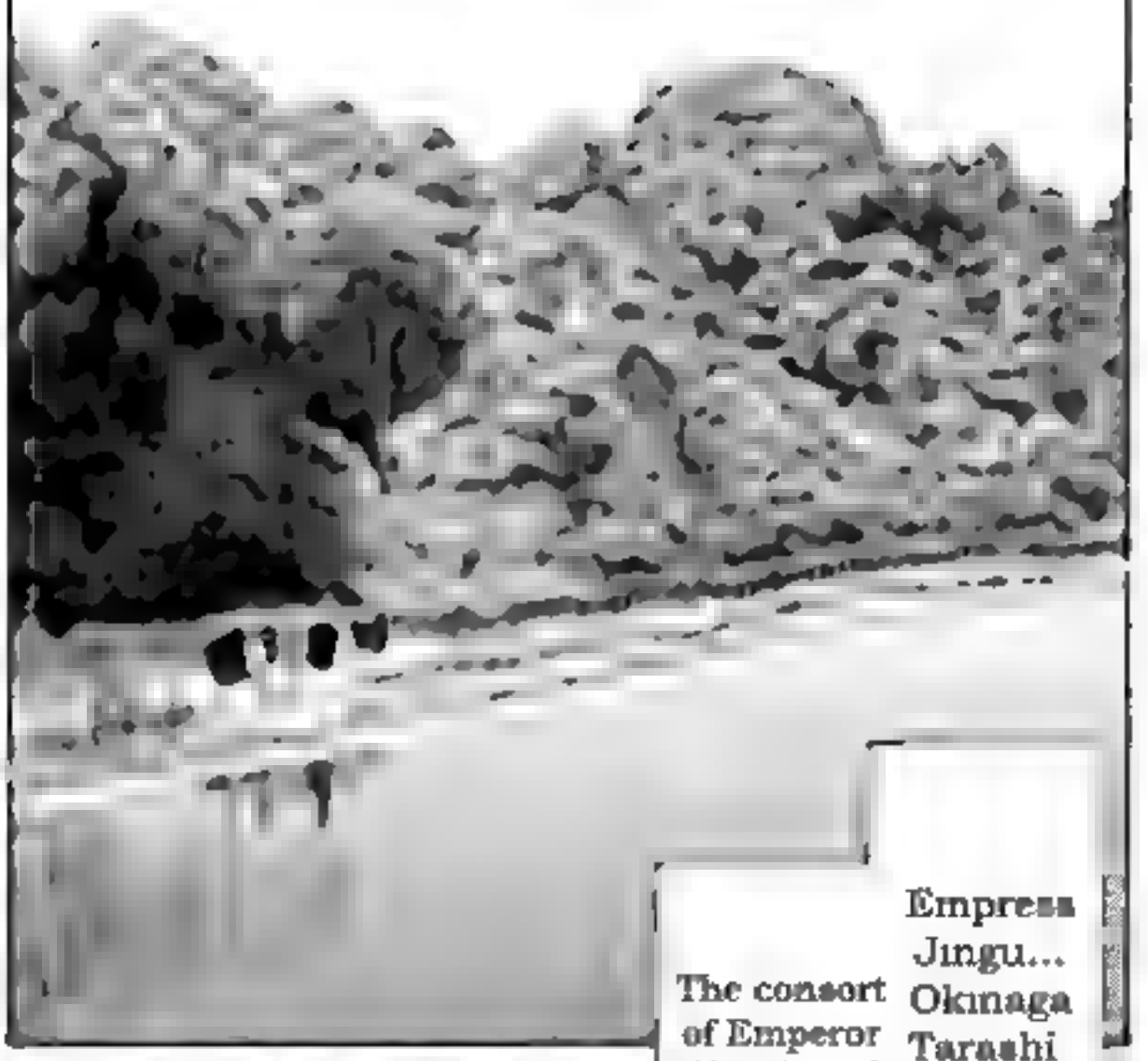
# CHAPTER 28: THE EMPRESS CONSTELLATION

Empress Jingu's Mausoleum

It only consisted of ten-odd representatives of archaeology and history walking around the perimeter of the burial mound, but they still found a number of unidentified artifacts

In March of 2008, a study was conducted for the first time in Empress Jingu's Mausoleum, which had been forbidden up until that point.





Empress Jingu... Okinaga Tarashi hime.

The consort of Emperor Chuai, and the mother of Emperor Ojin. A mythological







I saw another one just back there.

It looked rather off-handed. It must've been etched in by a knife fairly recently.

Oh, yeah.

Is that some form of management symbol ...?

We'll have to scrape that off later! How dare they vandalize the tomb of an ancestor of the Imperial Household...!!

I'll bet some local middle schoolers must've snuck in here, and carved their initial to mark themselves.

Hence the W...

Yes... All the burial mounds of each successive emperor are forbidden, and they can be neither studied nor excavated. They claim this is for the "peace and sanctity of the tomb".

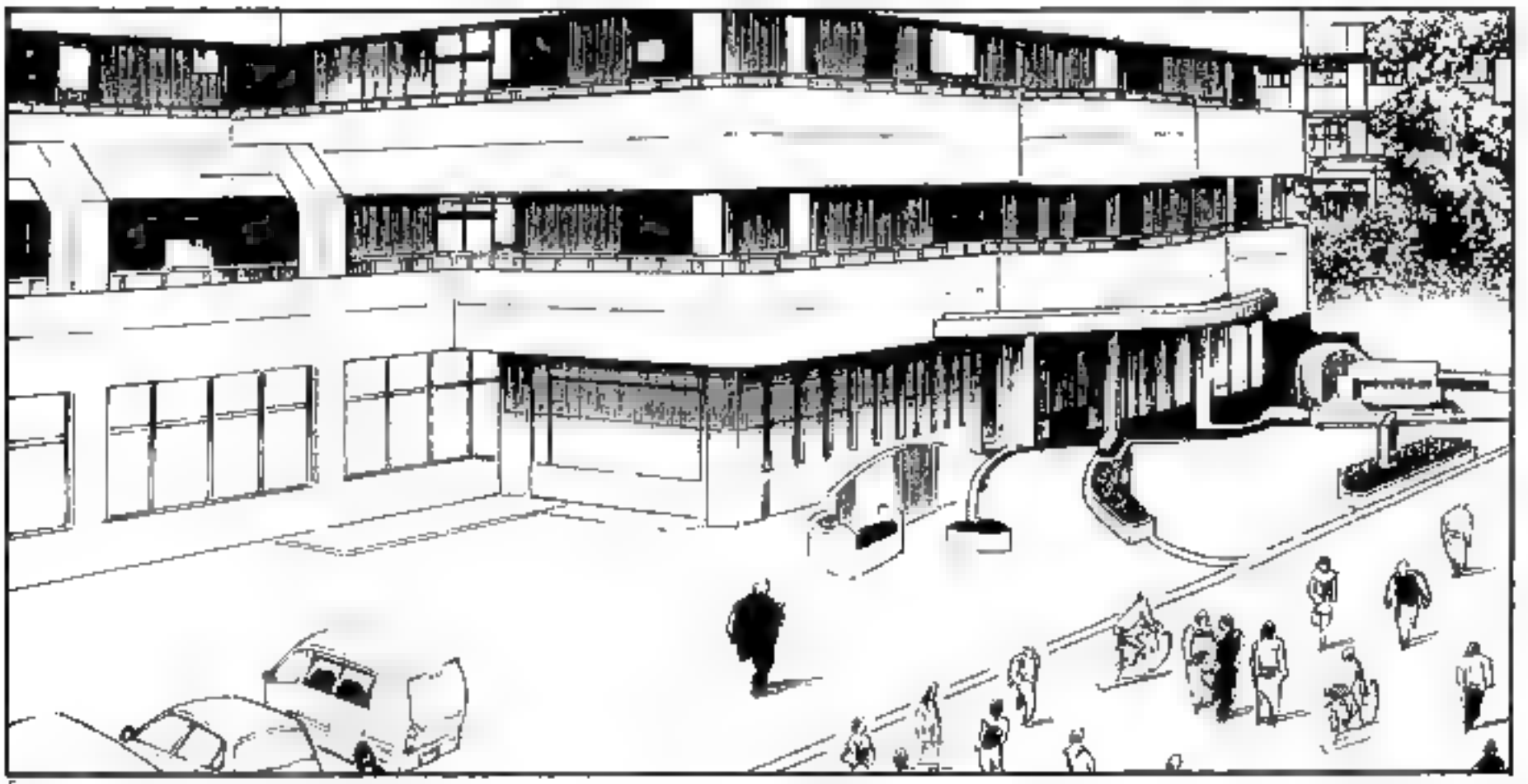
While Empress Jingu is a mythological figure, and the academic society nearly flat-out denies her ever existing, this burial mound is still regarded as her tomb

But as long as they do not allow an academic study of the inside, as opposed to this distant look, we may never know what was wrong, and what must be corrected.

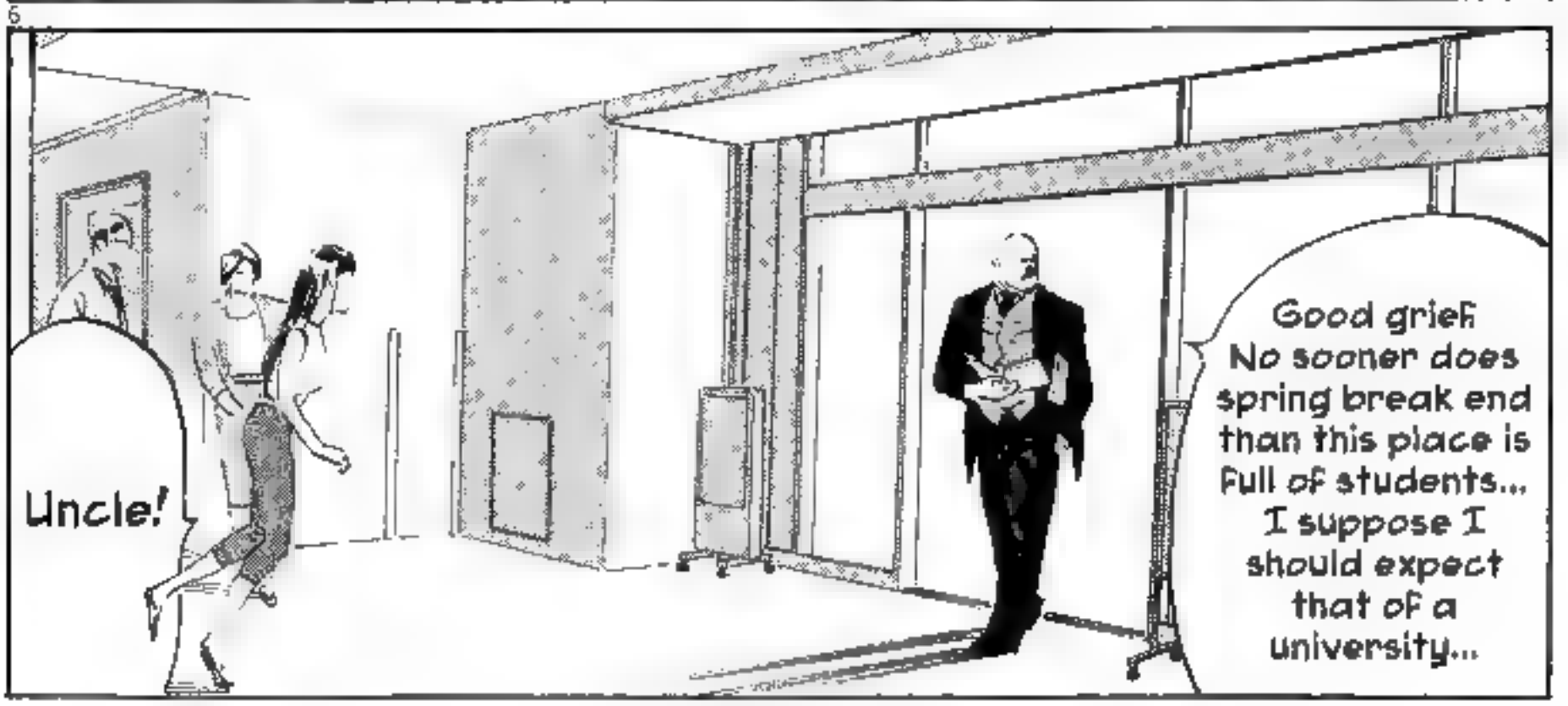
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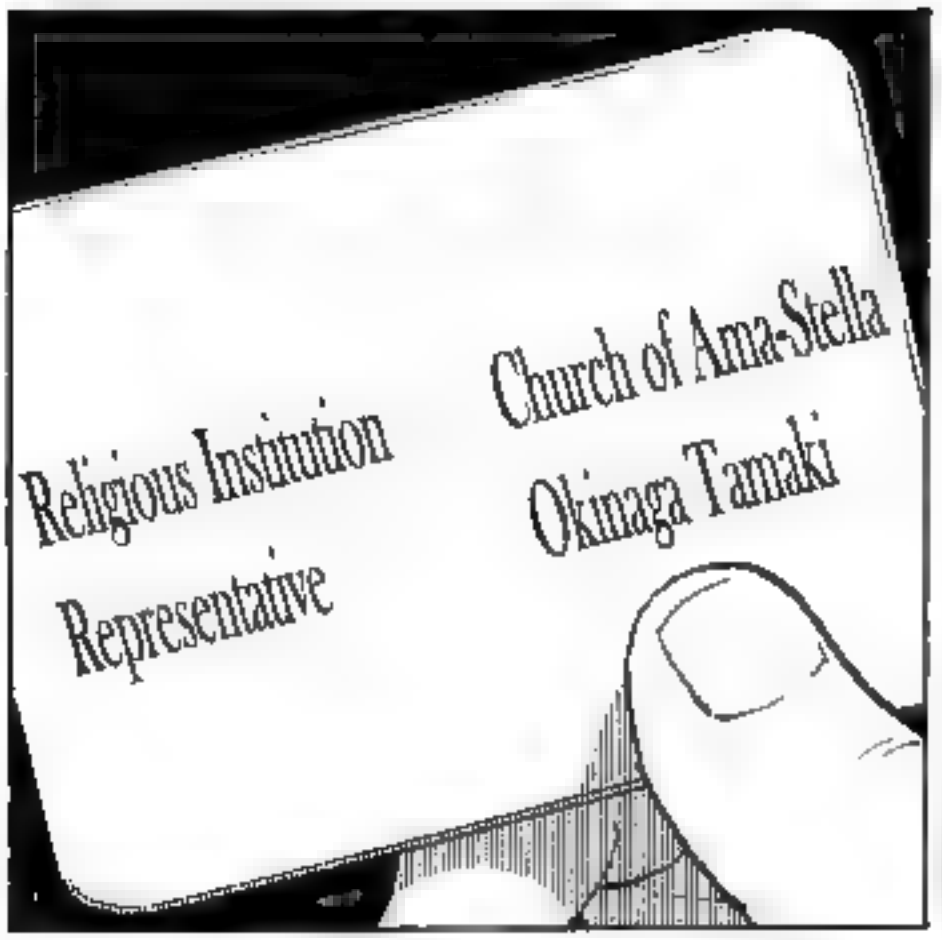


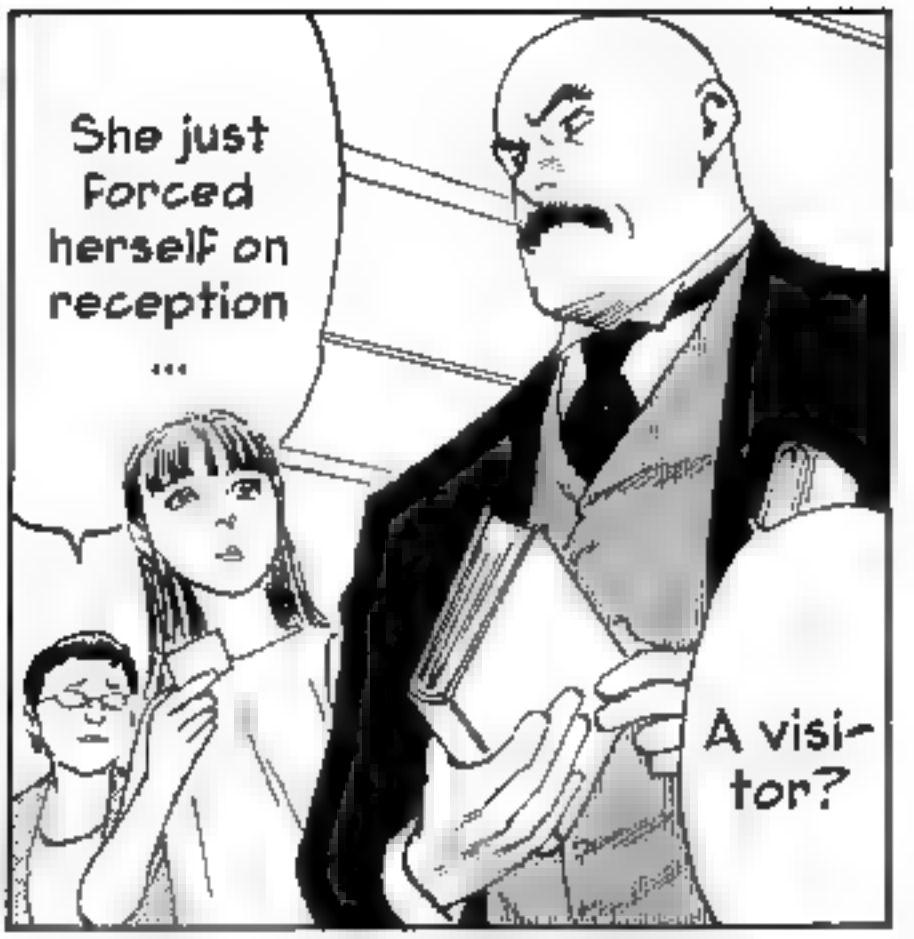
# EAST ASIA UNIVERSITY OF CULTURE



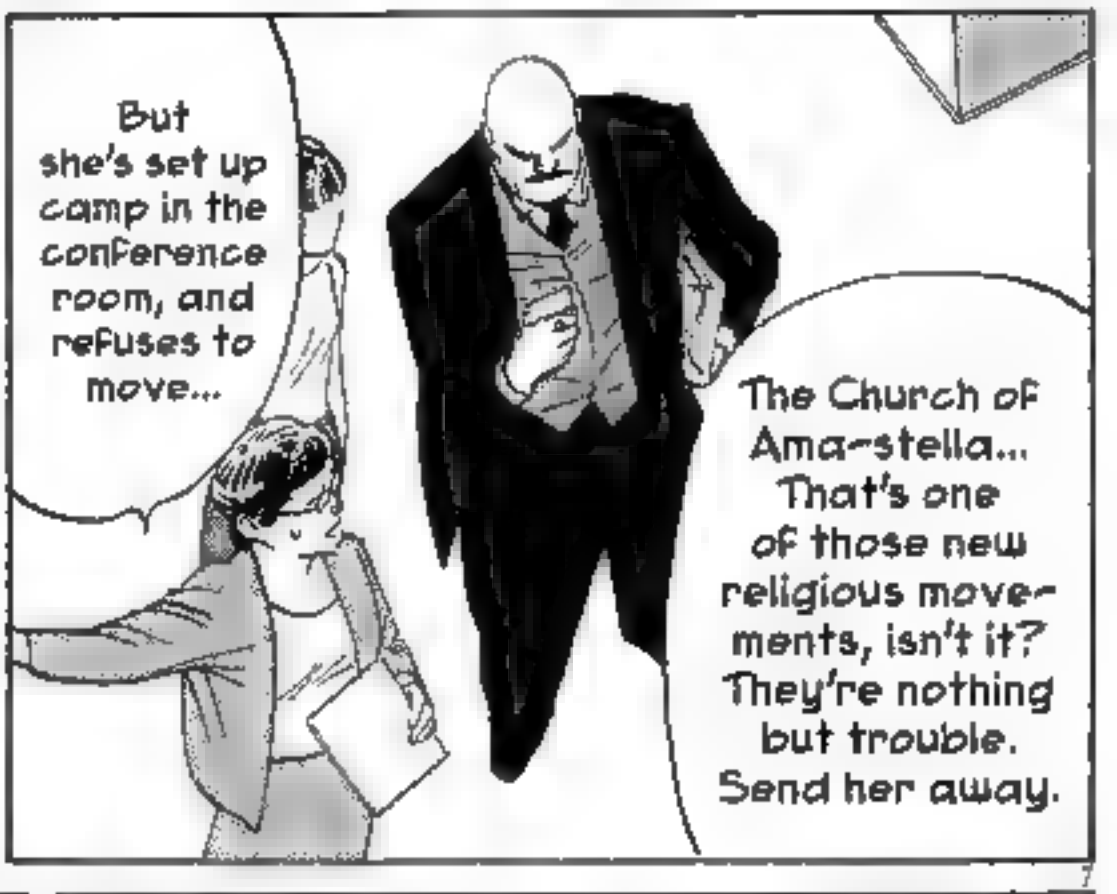
6


Uncle!
Good grief
No sooner does spring break end than this place is full of students...
I suppose I should expect that of a university...

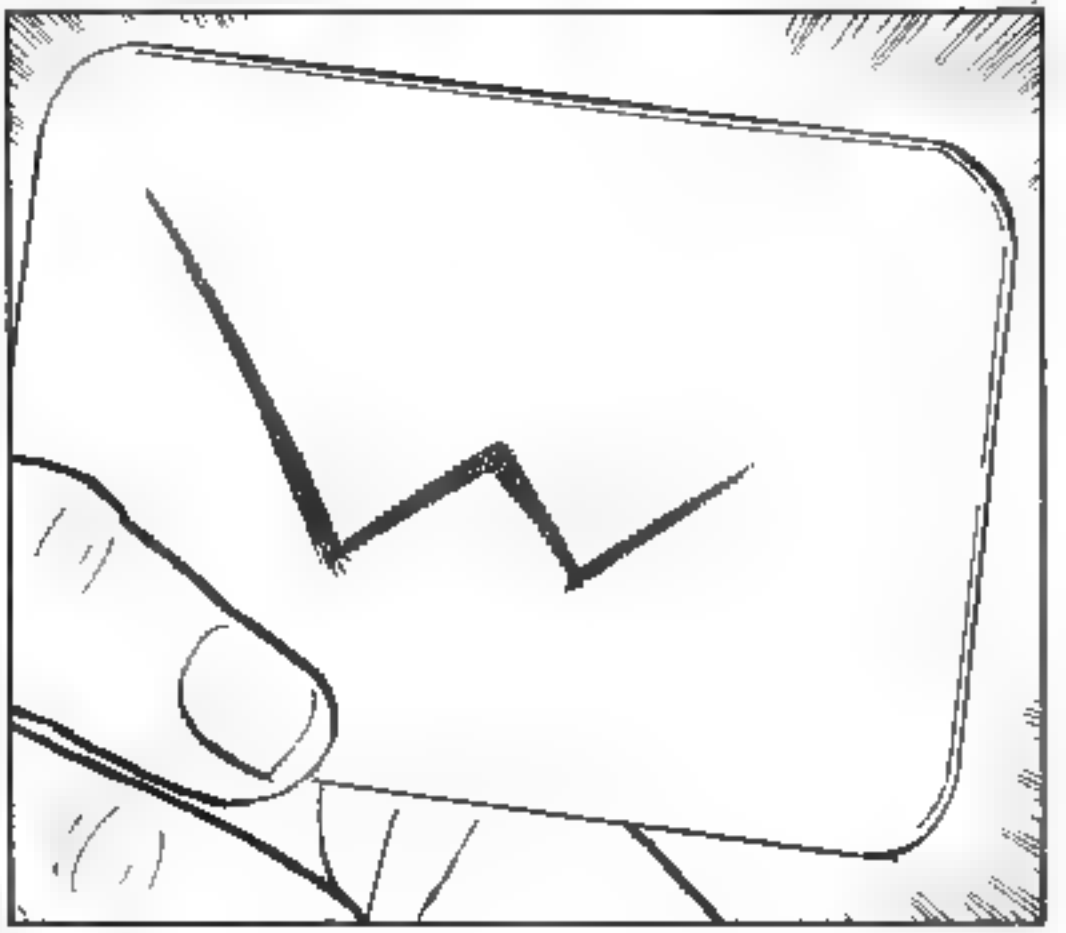

Religious Institution Representative
Church of Ama-Stella
Okinaga Tamaki


She just forced herself on reception ...
A visitor?


FWIP
For the love of...


But she's set up camp in the conference room, and refuses to move...
The Church of Ama-stella... That's one of those new religious movements, isn't it? They're nothing but trouble. Send her away.





Your use of the constellations to explain Japanese mythology... This was something I have believed for a long time, so I agreed with every word!

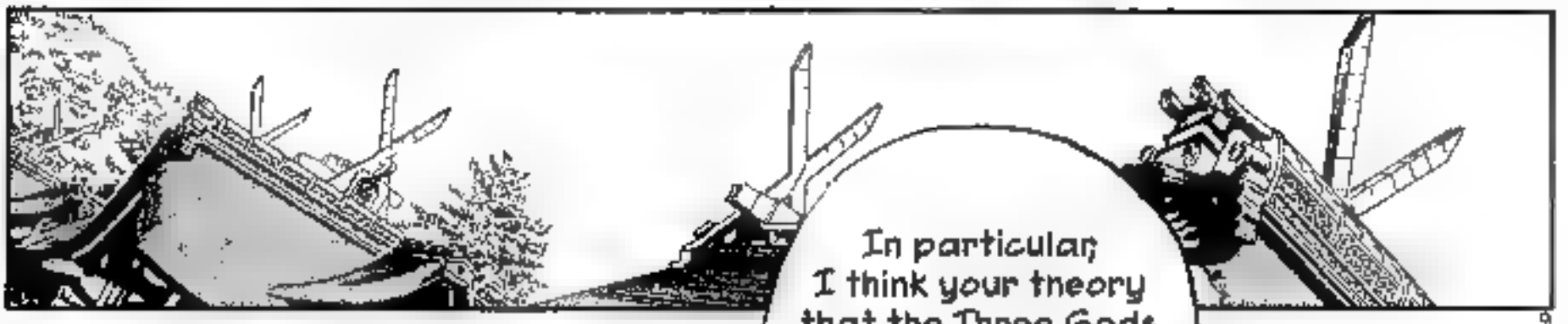
It was astounding! I was deeply moved!

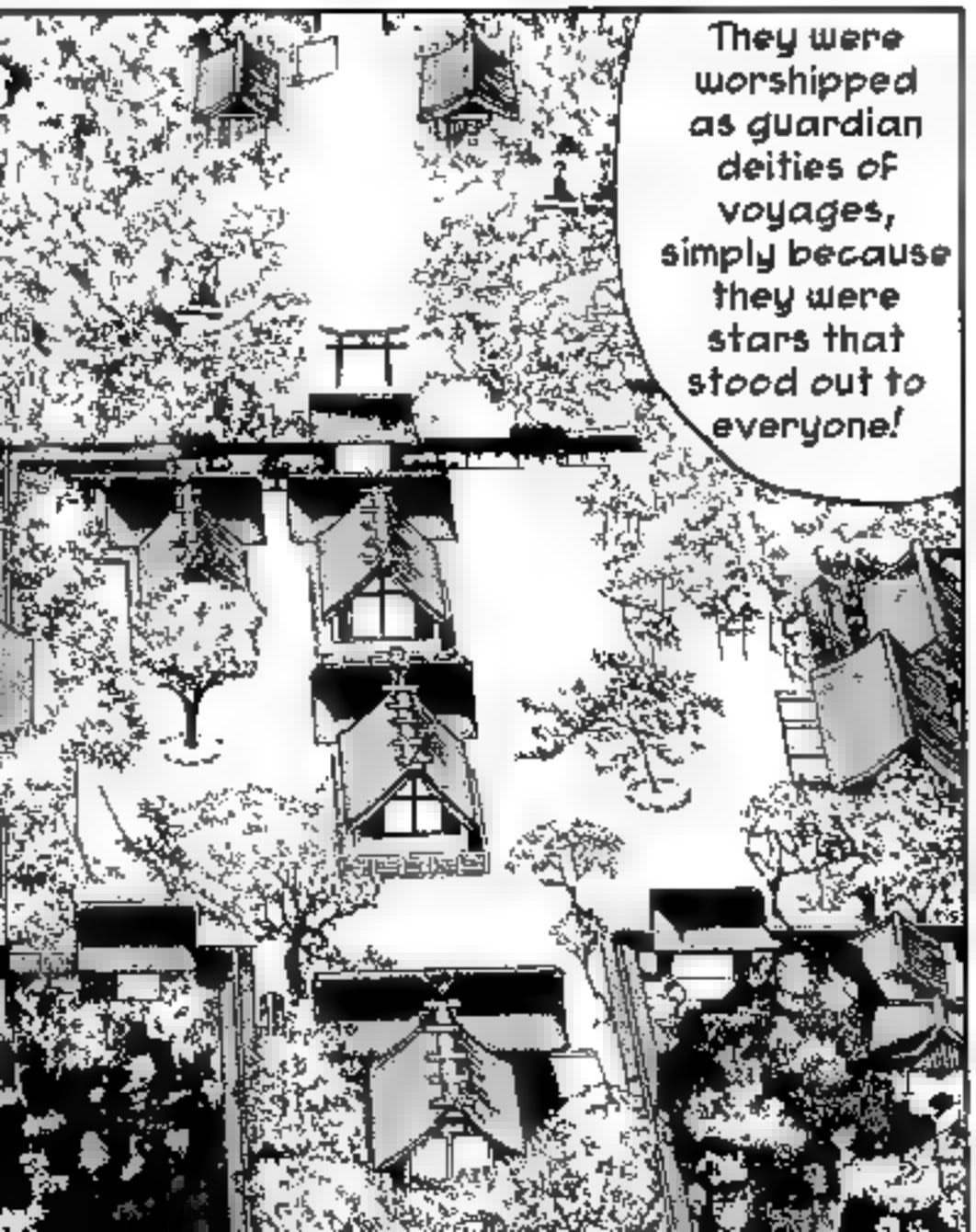
I had the pleasure of reading your book, "Myth of the Heavens"*.

I see... Well, thank you.

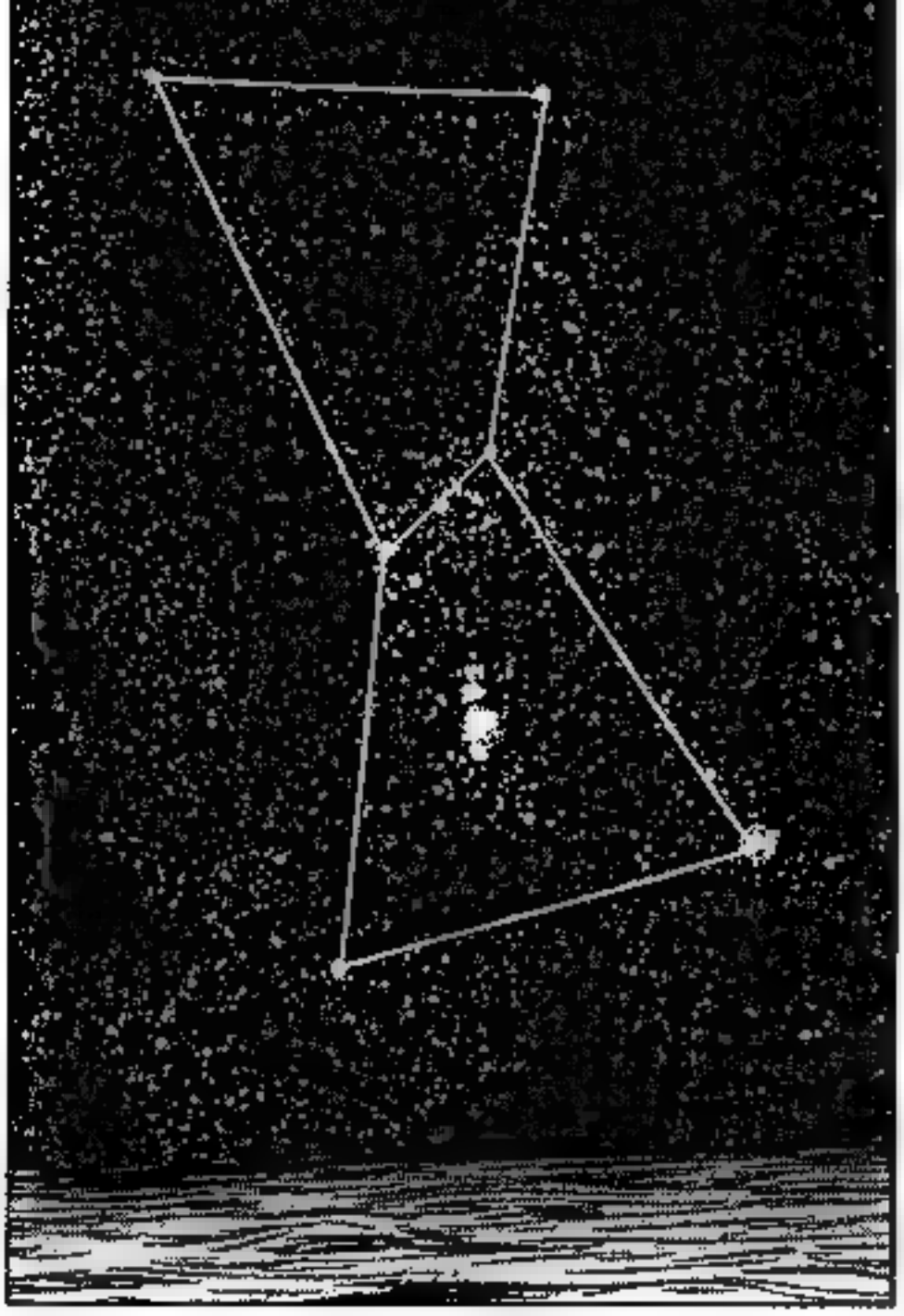
*SEE THE SPECIAL VOLUME "THE CASE RECORDS OF PROFESSOR MUNAKATA, COLLECTION 6", CHAPTER 18, "MYTH OF THE HEAVENS"

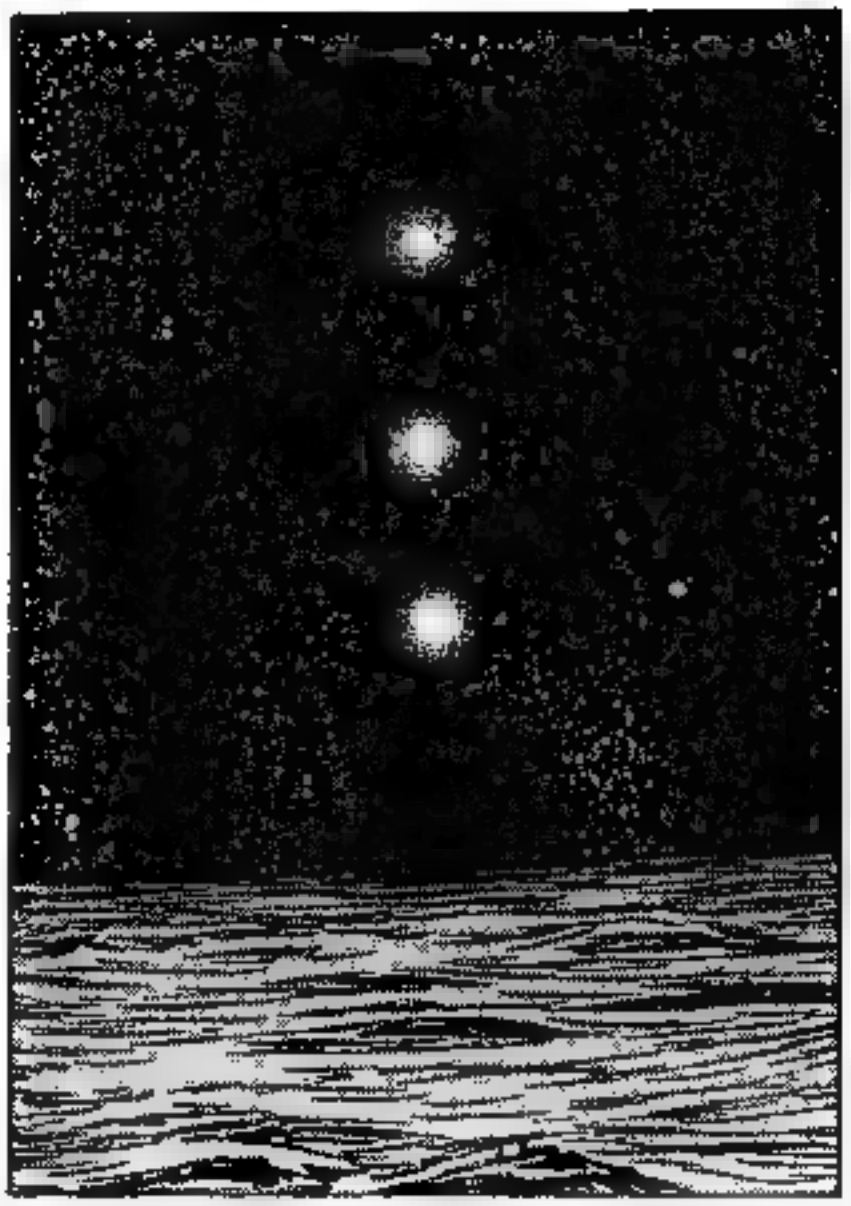




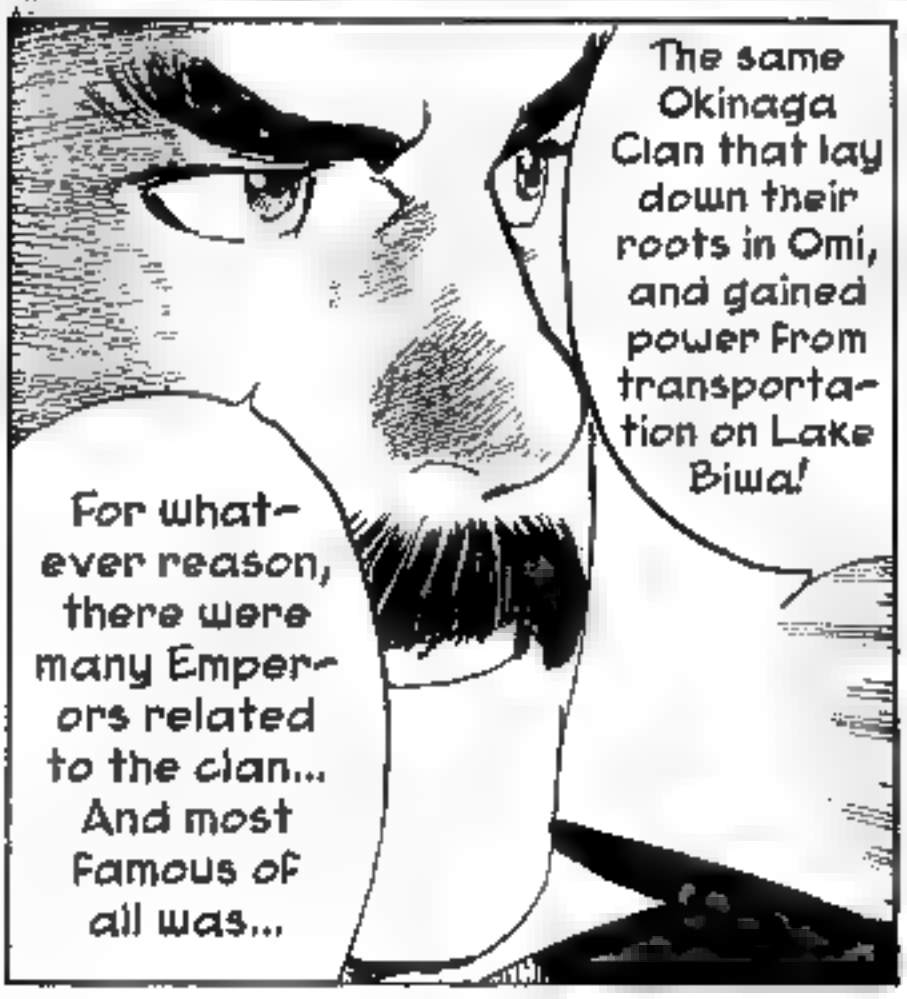

They were worshipped as guardian deities of voyages, simply because they were stars that stood out to everyone!


In particular, I think your theory that the Three Gods of Sumiyoshi, worshipped in Sumiyoshi Grand Shrine of Osaka, are the three stars of Orion, is true.

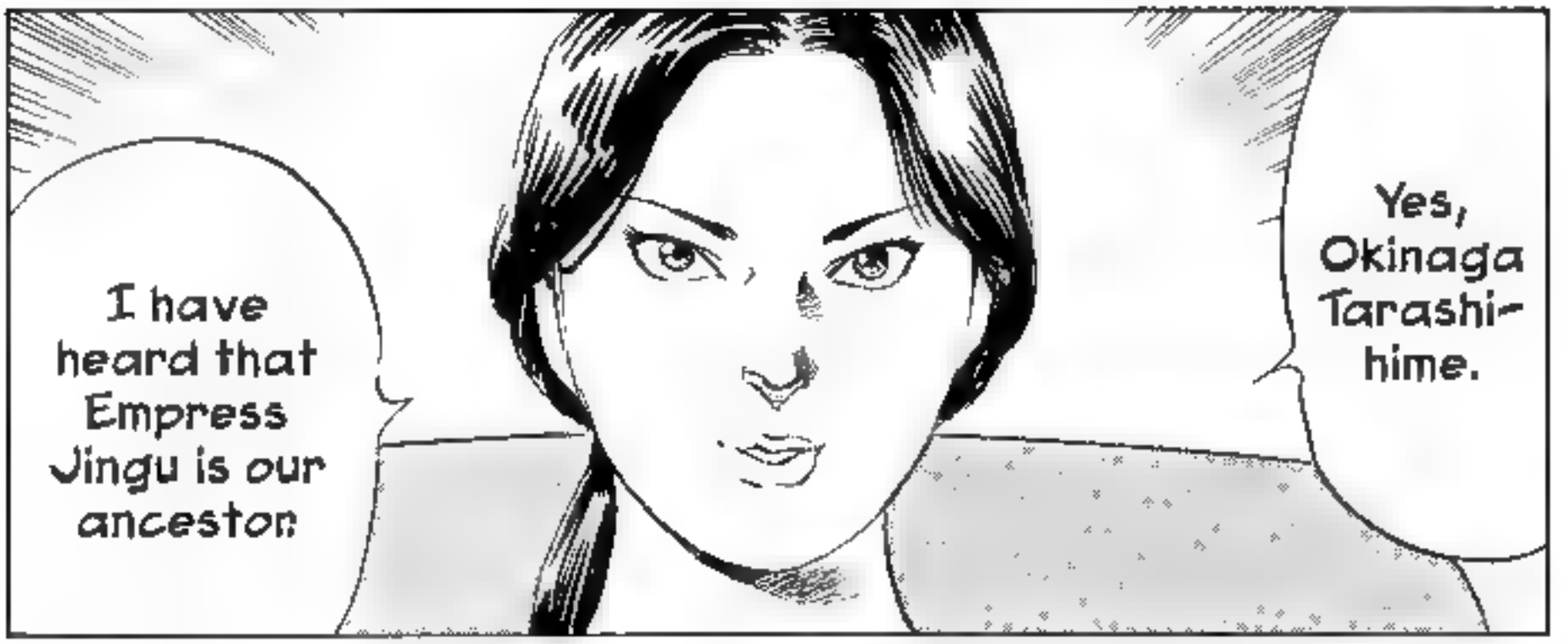





That's an uncommon surname. Is that the Okinaga...?
So your name is Ms. Okinaga Tamaki, correct?

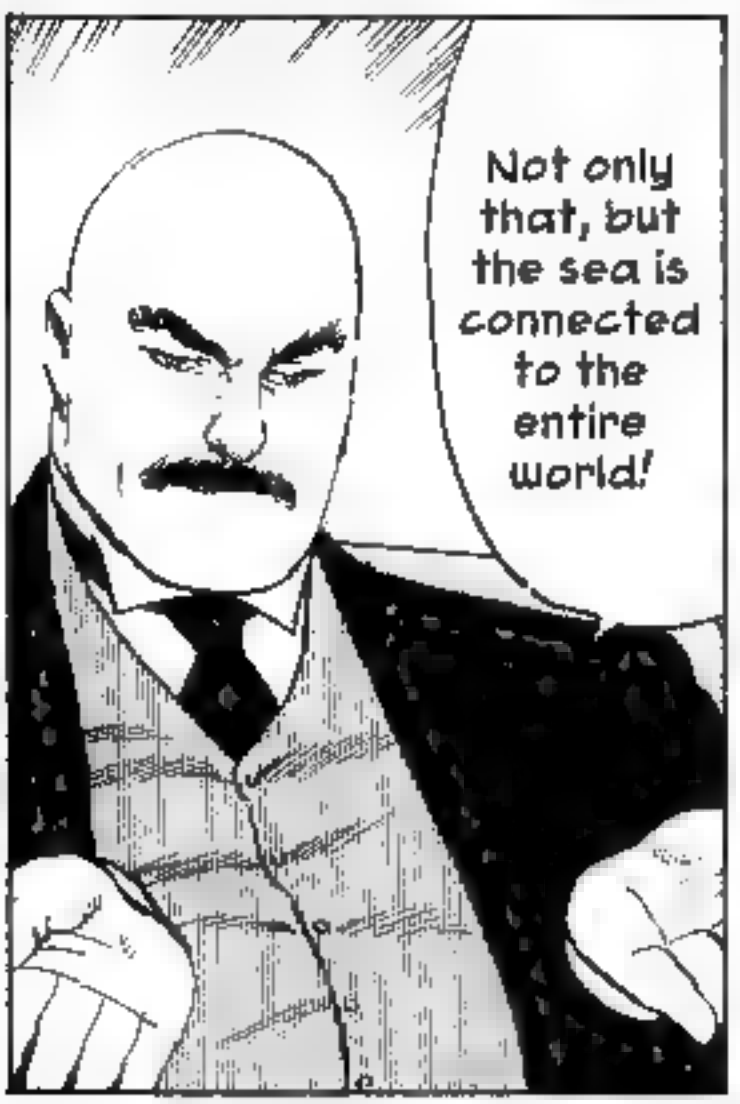

The same Okinaga Clan that lay down their roots in Omi, and gained power from transportation on Lake Biwa!
For whatever reason, there were many Emperors related to the clan... And most famous of all was...

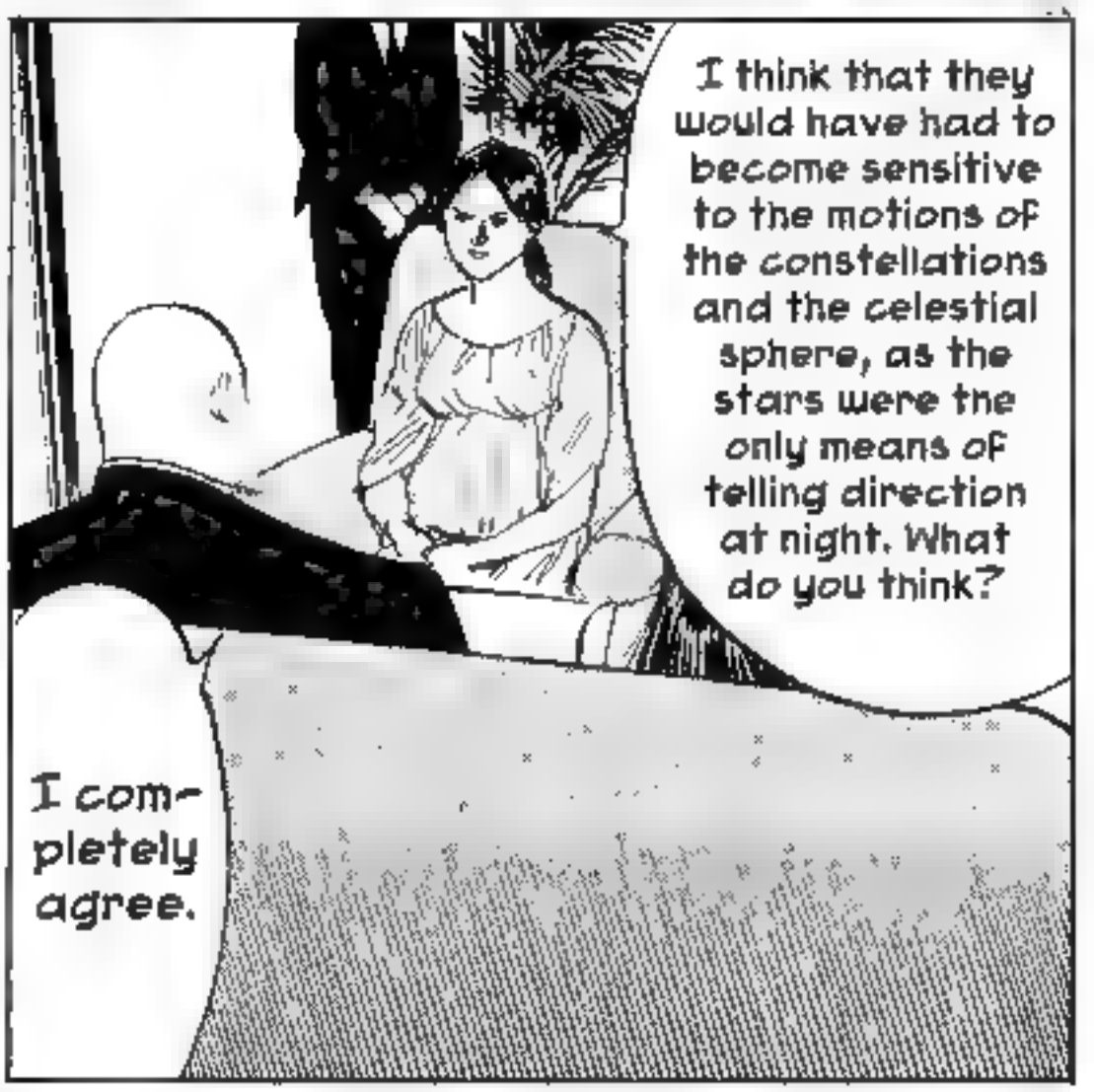

I am a descendent of the ancient seafolk of the Okinaga Clan!


I have heard that Empress Jingu is our ancestor
Yes, Okinaga Tarashi-hime.


I hear you're originally from Fukuoka, Professor Munakata. You must be related to the Munakata Clan, the seaFolk of Northern Kyushu.
Pardon me for saying this, but both of us had ancestors that lived on the sea...


...
Hmm!


Not only that, but the sea is connected to the entire world!


I think that they would have had to become sensitive to the motions of the constellations and the celestial sphere, as the stars were the only means of telling direction at night. What do you think?
I completely agree.

.....

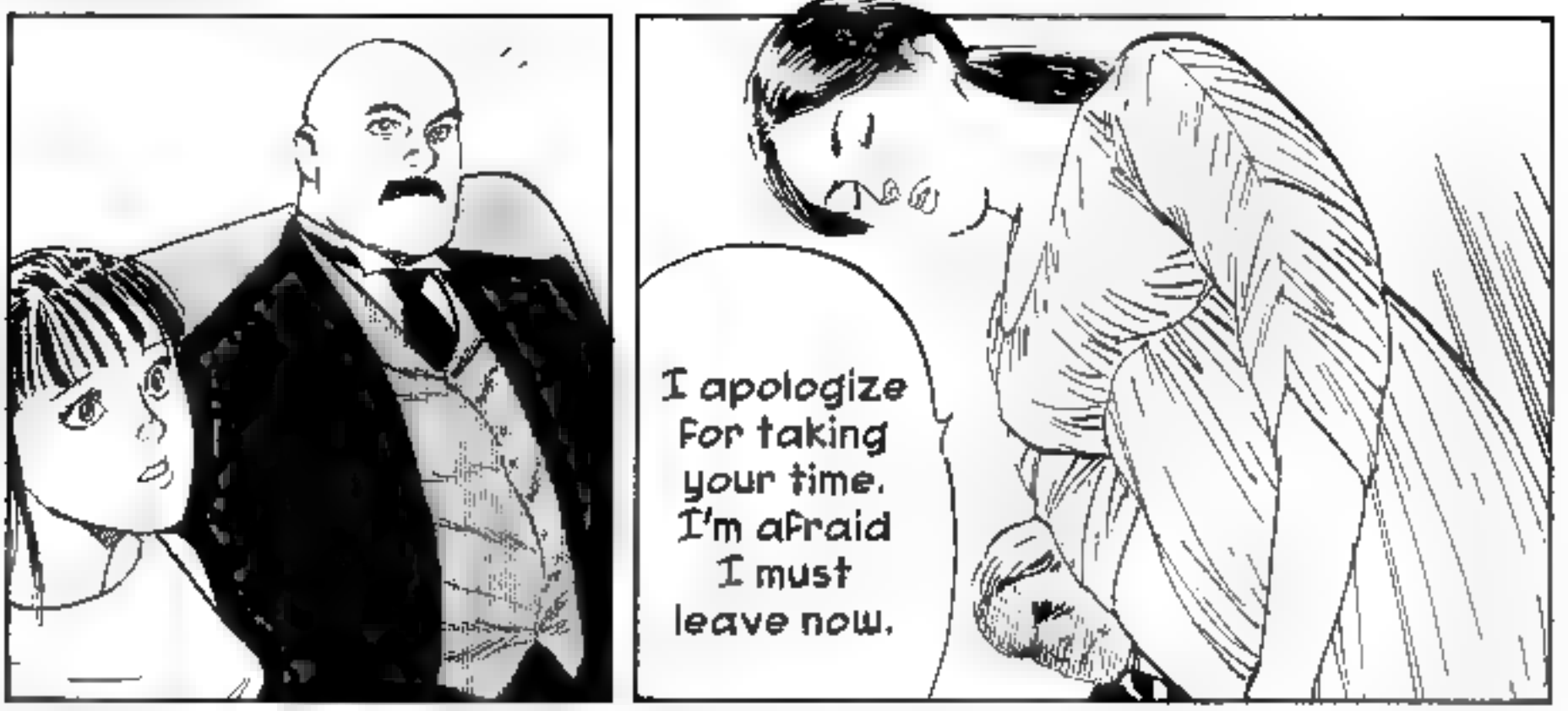
I would not find it strange if the myths of distant lands like Arabia and Greece were brought to Japan by the people of the sea.

It's just my intuition telling me...

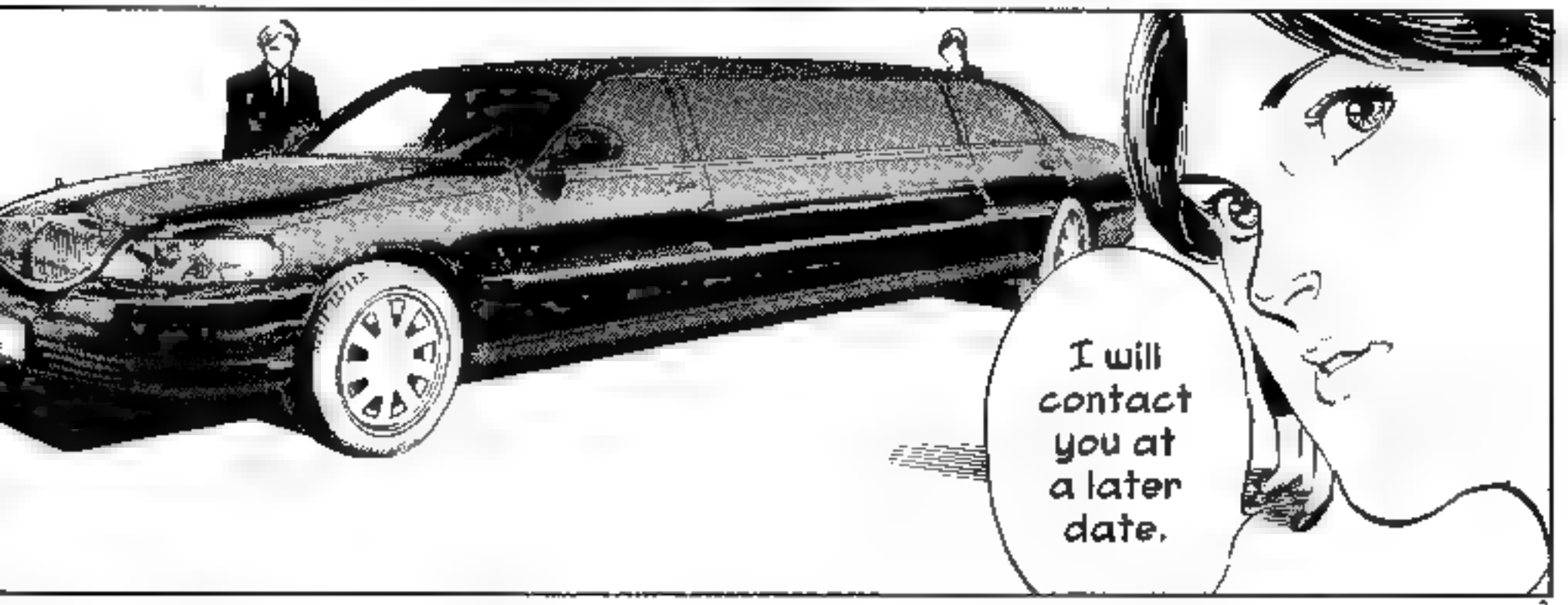
I wonder... if my ancestor Empress Jingu, was a star herself

I'd like to ask you something. What is this "W" on the back of your business card...?

Empress Jingu was a star!?


I apologize for taking your time. I'm afraid I must leave now.


I would, however, like to meet with you again and ask for more of your theories.
It's true that we conduct religious activities, but we have no intention of proselytizing to you, Professor Munakata.


I will contact you at a later date.



Heheh... I can't blame your generation for not knowing, Taki.

She was an empress whose portrait was on banknotes in the Meiji Period.

What was that about...? I'm not sure what sort of religion she purports to lead...

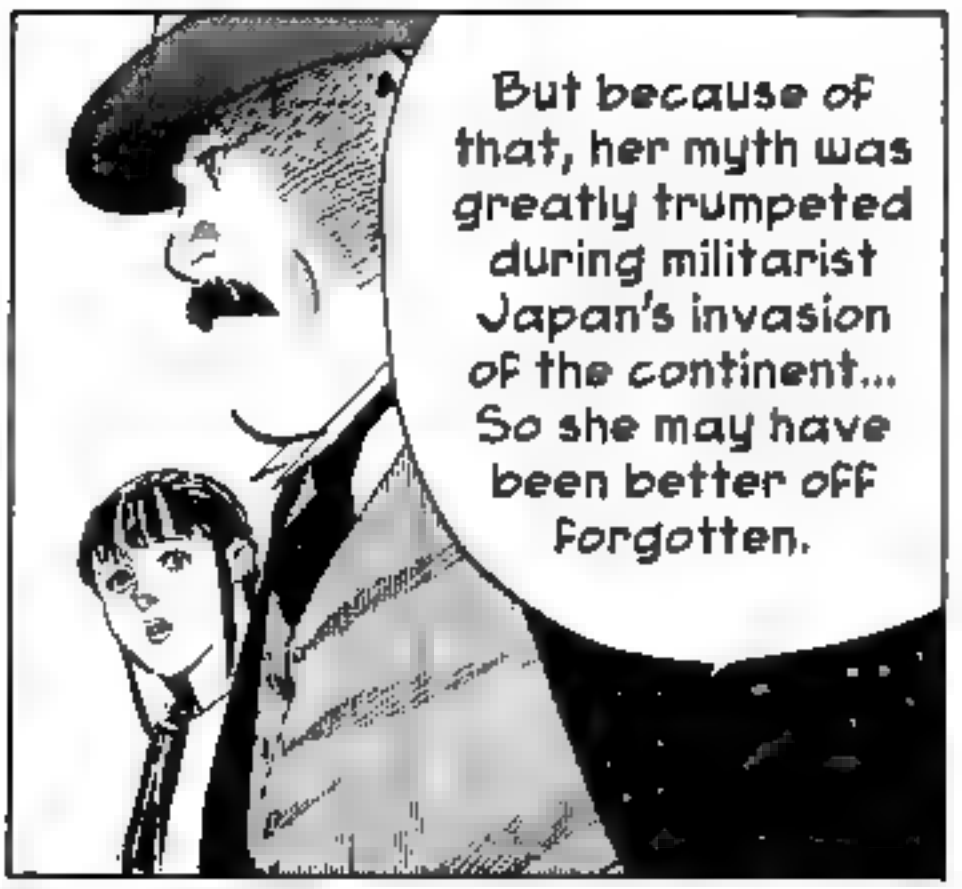
Uncle, who's this "Empress Jingu" that you were talking about?





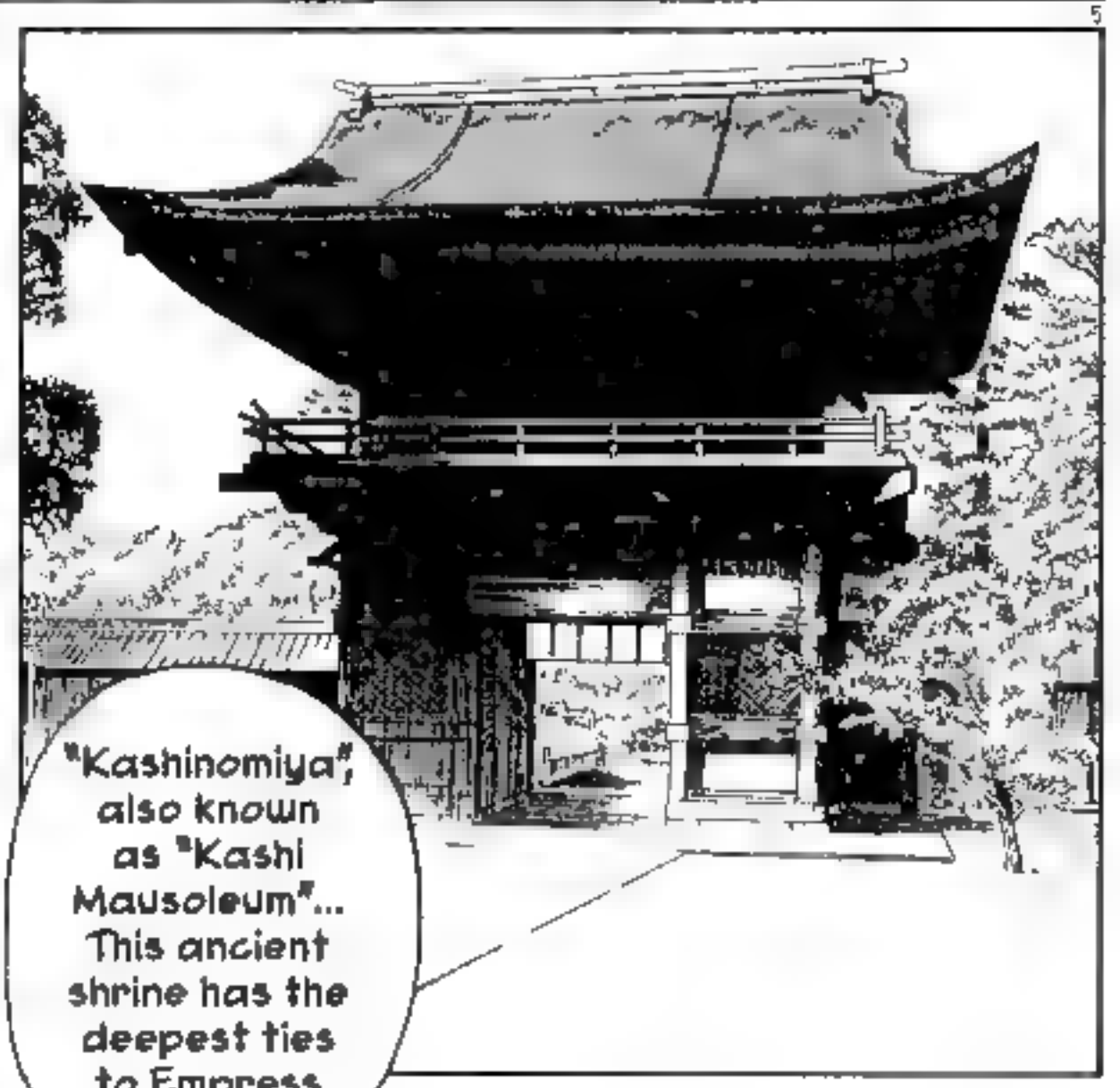

They say that she was a brave woman who personally took up arms and led her army to attack ancient Korea. She may have been like a moe character, to use modern-day terms.




But because of that, her myth was greatly trumpeted during militarist Japan's invasion of the continent... So she may have been better off forgotten.


Of course! I don't know much about it, but I've heard it's the most important shrine in West Japan.
Taki, you're familiar with Kashi Shrine in Fukuoka, right?


KASHI SHRINE


"Kashinomiya", also known as "Kashi Mausoleum"... This ancient shrine has the deepest ties to Empress Jingu.

This place was occupied by Emperor Chuai, in order to quell the rebellion of Kumaso in Kyushu. He sent for his consort, Empress Jingu, over the sea route from Tsunuga in Echizen. .

Along the way, the tide receded and the ship was moored A man named Kuma-wani came to greet the empress, and did everything in his power to pacify her anger.

When she arrived at Kashinomiya, the Empress became possessed, and began to speak the words of the god of Sumiyoshi

But the Emperor refused to believe the oracle,

This was an oracle

Peninsula, rather than Kumaso

There is a land flowing with treasure to the West, that I bestow to you...

Only one man named Hashire Kumawashi, with wings and great strength, refused to submit, but he was shot down by her soldiers

She then sent her retainer to deal with Kumaso, who promptly yielded...

The god of wind created a wind, the god of waves made waves, and the god of fish gathered up all the fish to push the war boats along.

Finally, she commanded the army in place of the emperor, and launched an attack on Silla.

The powerful waves became a great flood that reached Silla, and destroyed the nation The King of Silla had no choice but to surrender

Empress Jingu then returned to Kyushu and gave birth to a prince .. He would later become Emperor Ojin

But in Yamato, Ojin's half brother Oshikuma-no-Miko raised an army to take the throne for himself, and prepared to ambush the Empress' fleet upon her return

When the Empress caught wind of this, she hid in her ship with Ojin, and had her general Takefurukuma spread a rumor that the Empress had died. This lulled Oshikuma-no-Miko's army into a false sense of security, after which they were defeated Oshikuma-no-Miko then took his own life

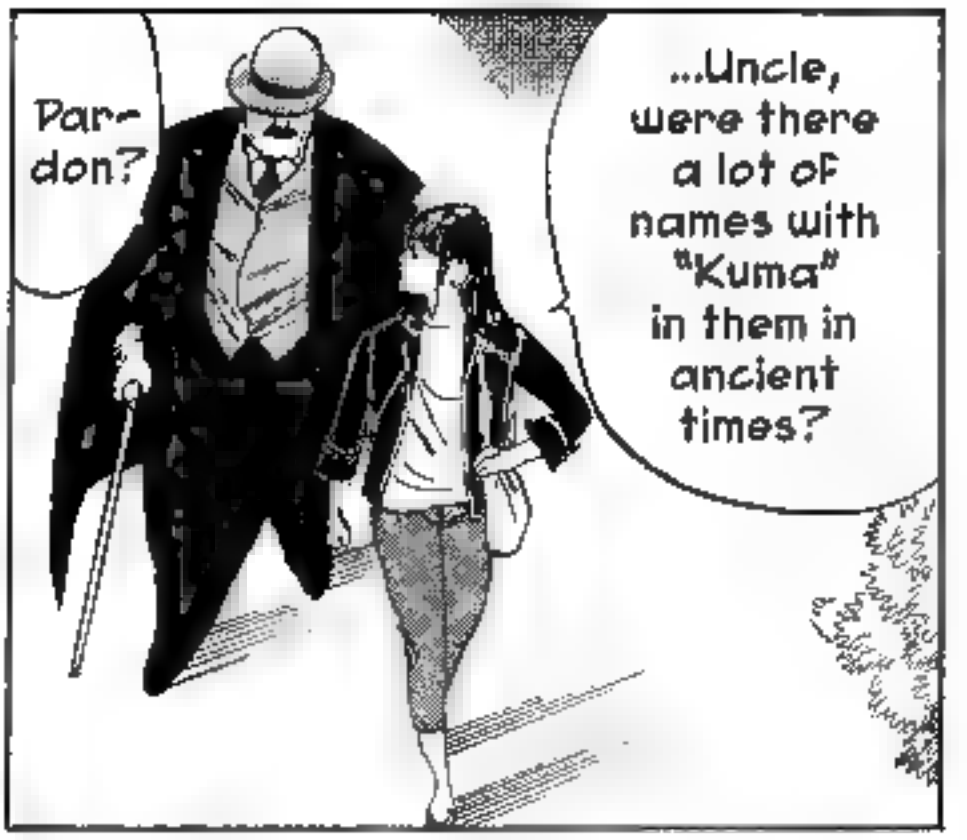
This resulted in a re-invasion of Silla but on the other hand, founded a friendly relationship with Baekje, who began sending them gifts such as the "Seven-Pronged Sword".

Later, when Silla took a hostile stance against them again, she divined the gods' will, and sent a man named Okuruma Nagatsuho as a messenger.

She passed away after a 69 year rule at the age of one hundred.

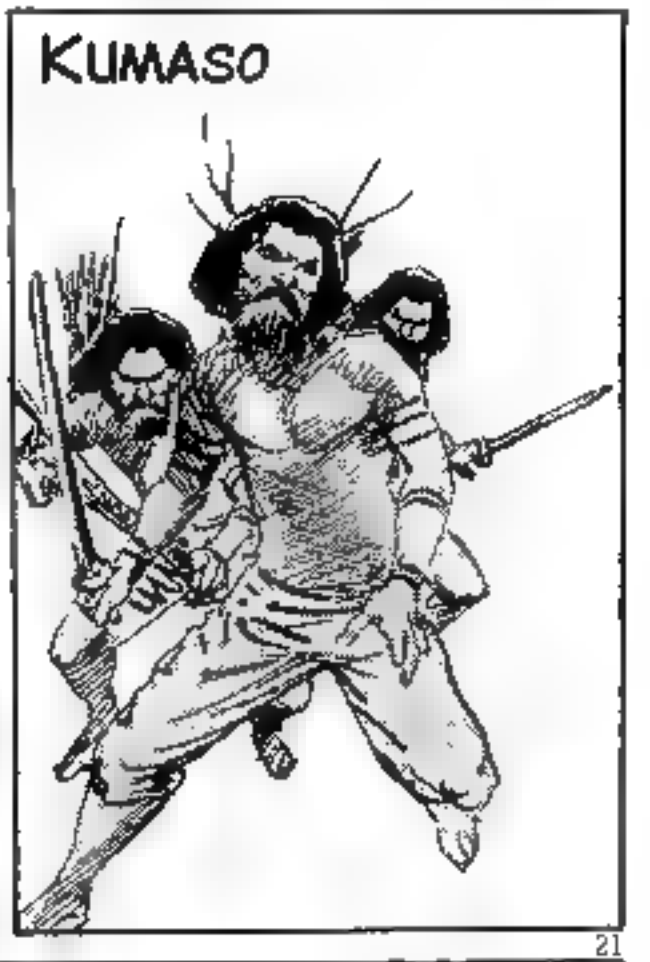
And that's basically the myth of Empress Jingu. There's a variety of other legends about her in the Chronicles...


This may not be important, but I found it funny how so many people in this story had names with "Kuma" in them...

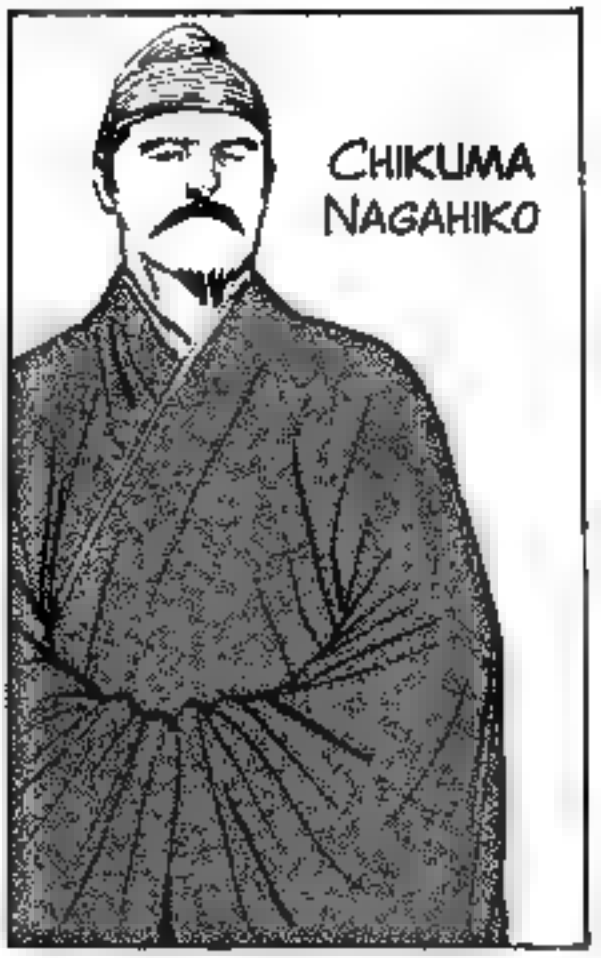

Par-don?
...Uncle, were there a lot of names with "Kuma" in them in ancient times?


HAJIRO KUMAWASHI


KUMA-WANI


KUMASO




CHIKUMA NAGAHIKO


TAKEFU-RUKUMA


OSHIKUMA-NO-MIKO

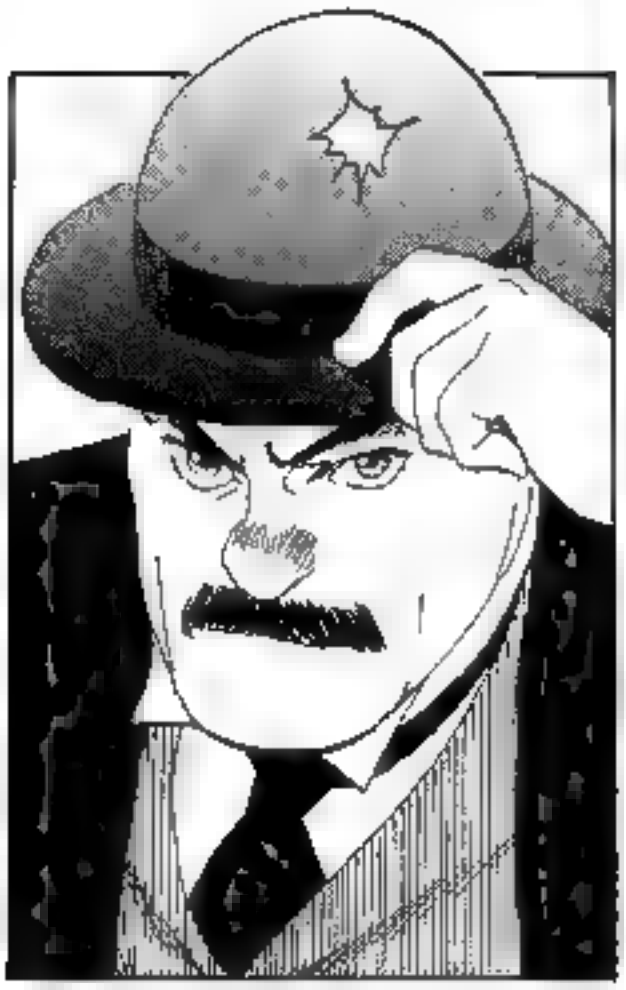
It's certainly been indicated that Empress Jingu defeated many enemies, or employed allies, that had "kuma", or "bear", in their name.

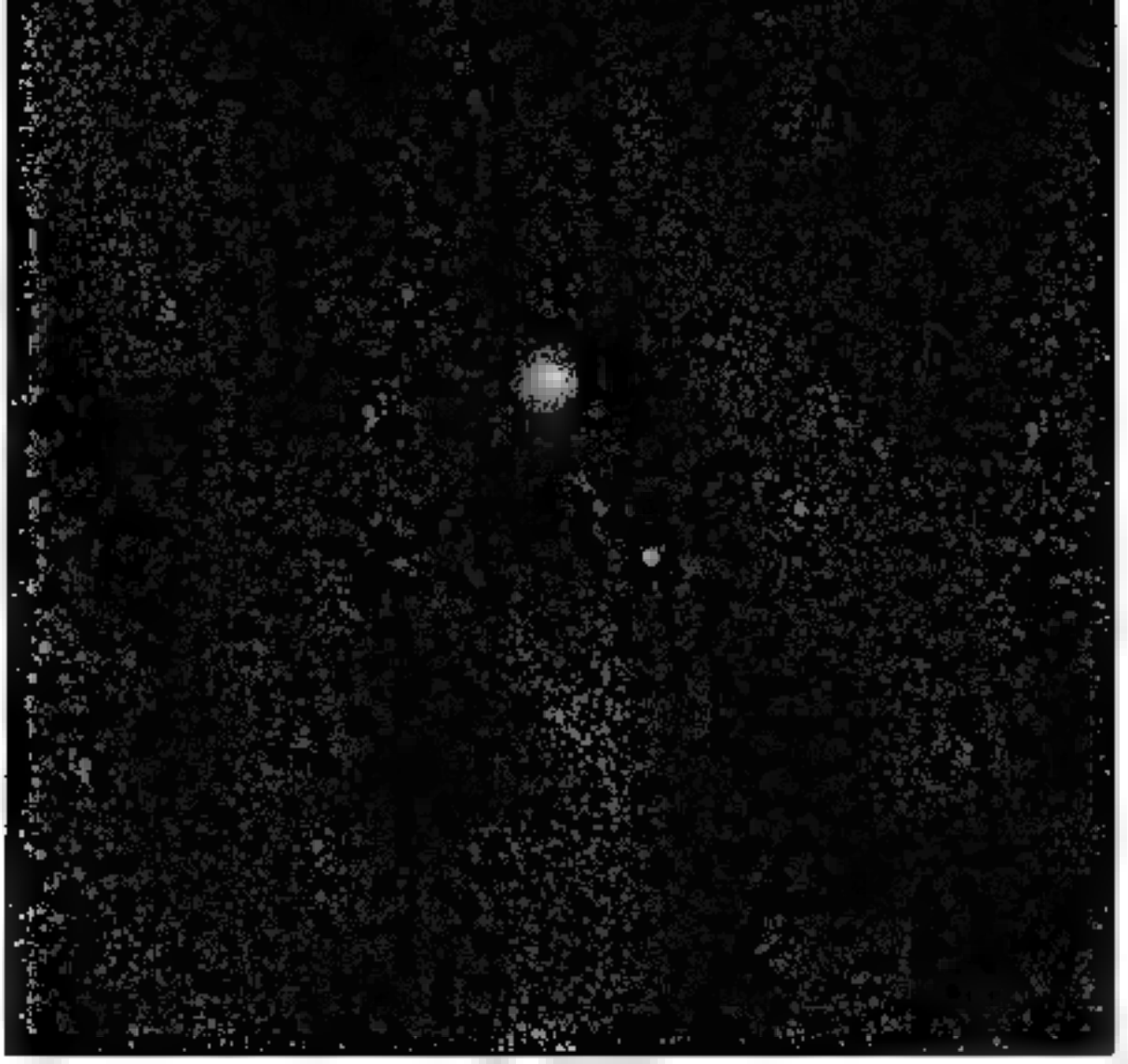
Ah-ha. You've picked up on something interesting, Taki.

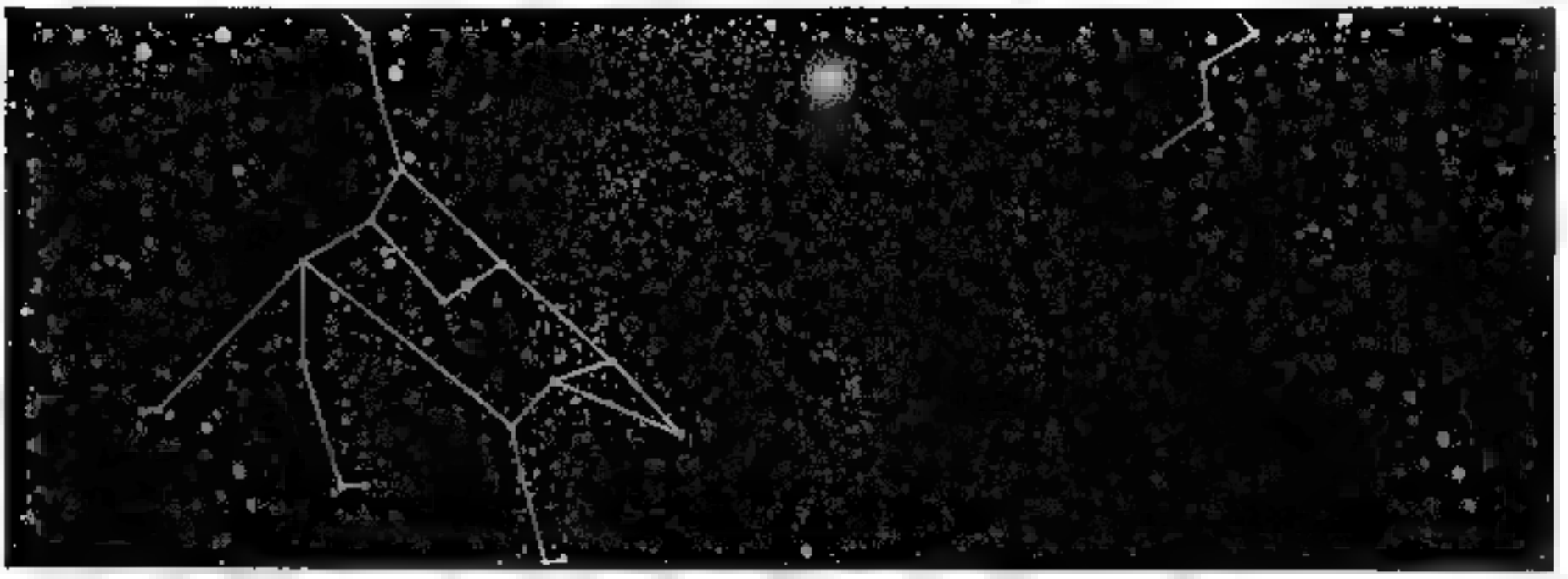
Perhaps a woman of ancient mythology related to a bear itself was superimposed upon the image of Empress Jingu... So the theory goes.

That would be...

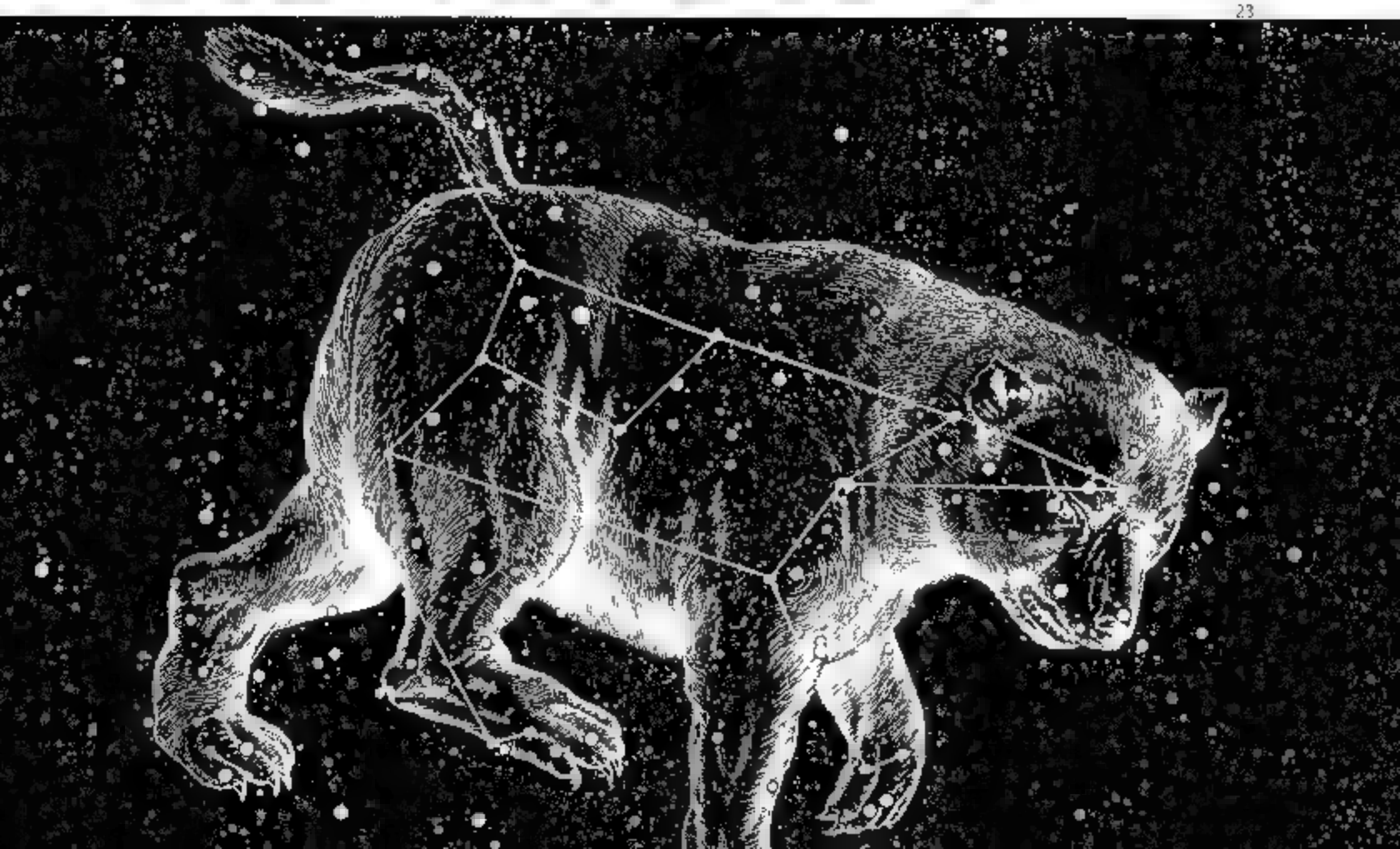
A woman related to a bear itself...?

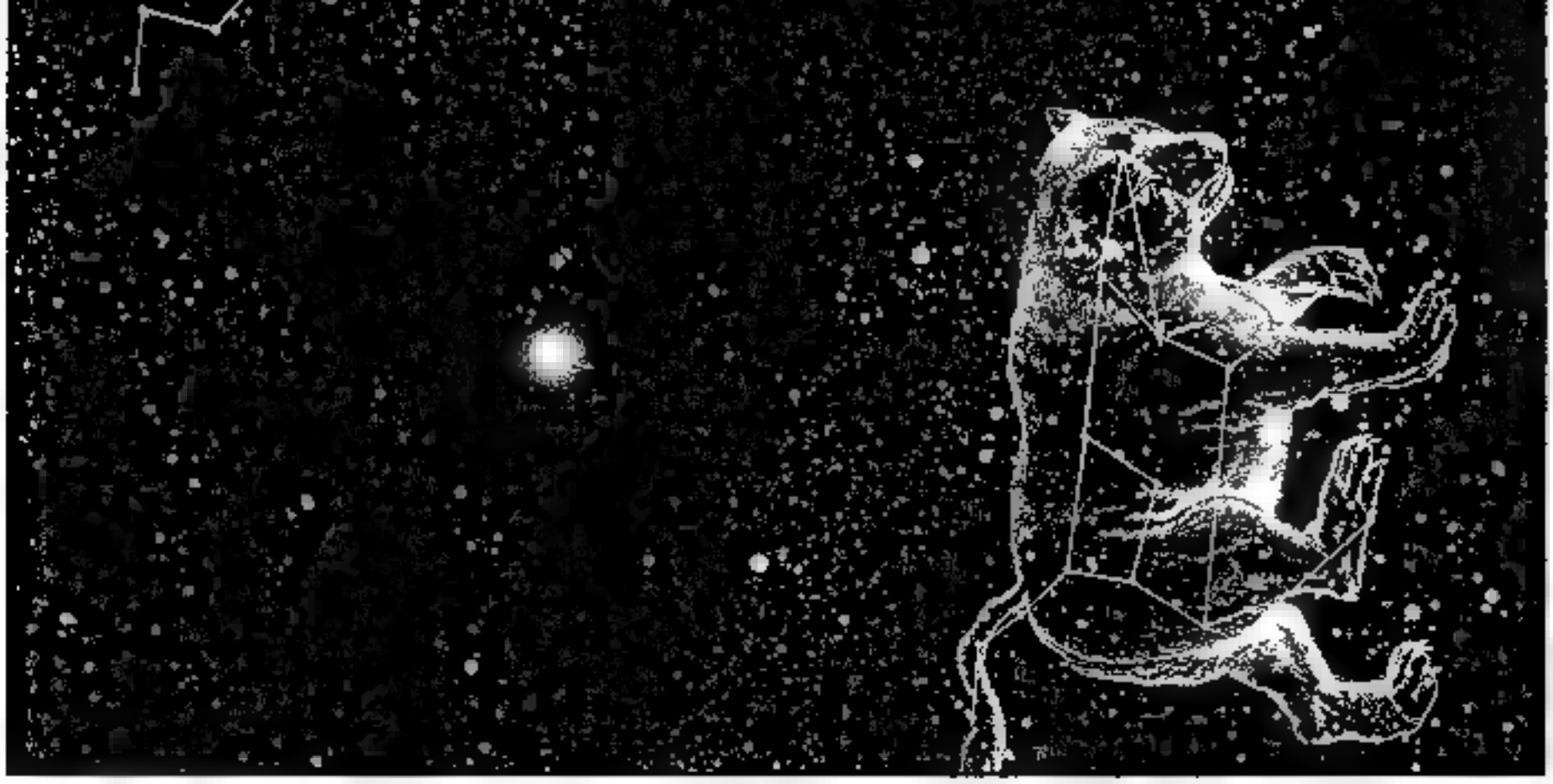




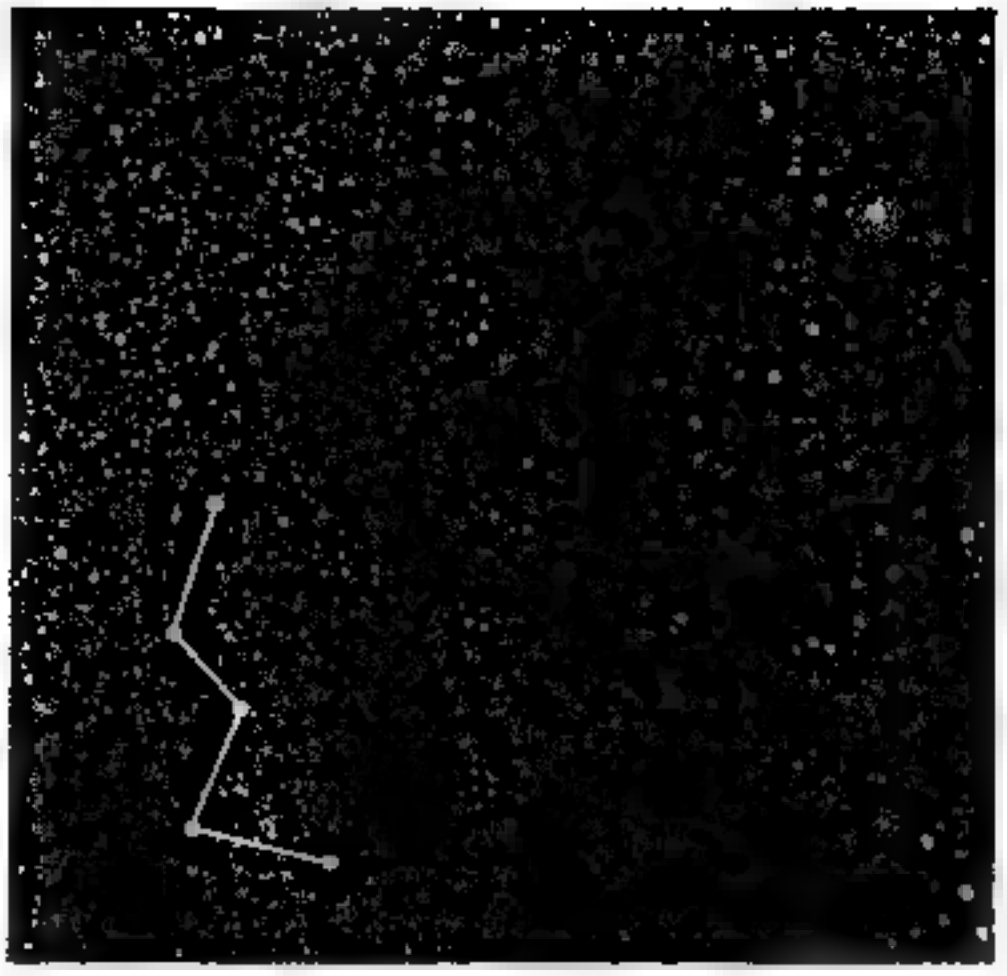


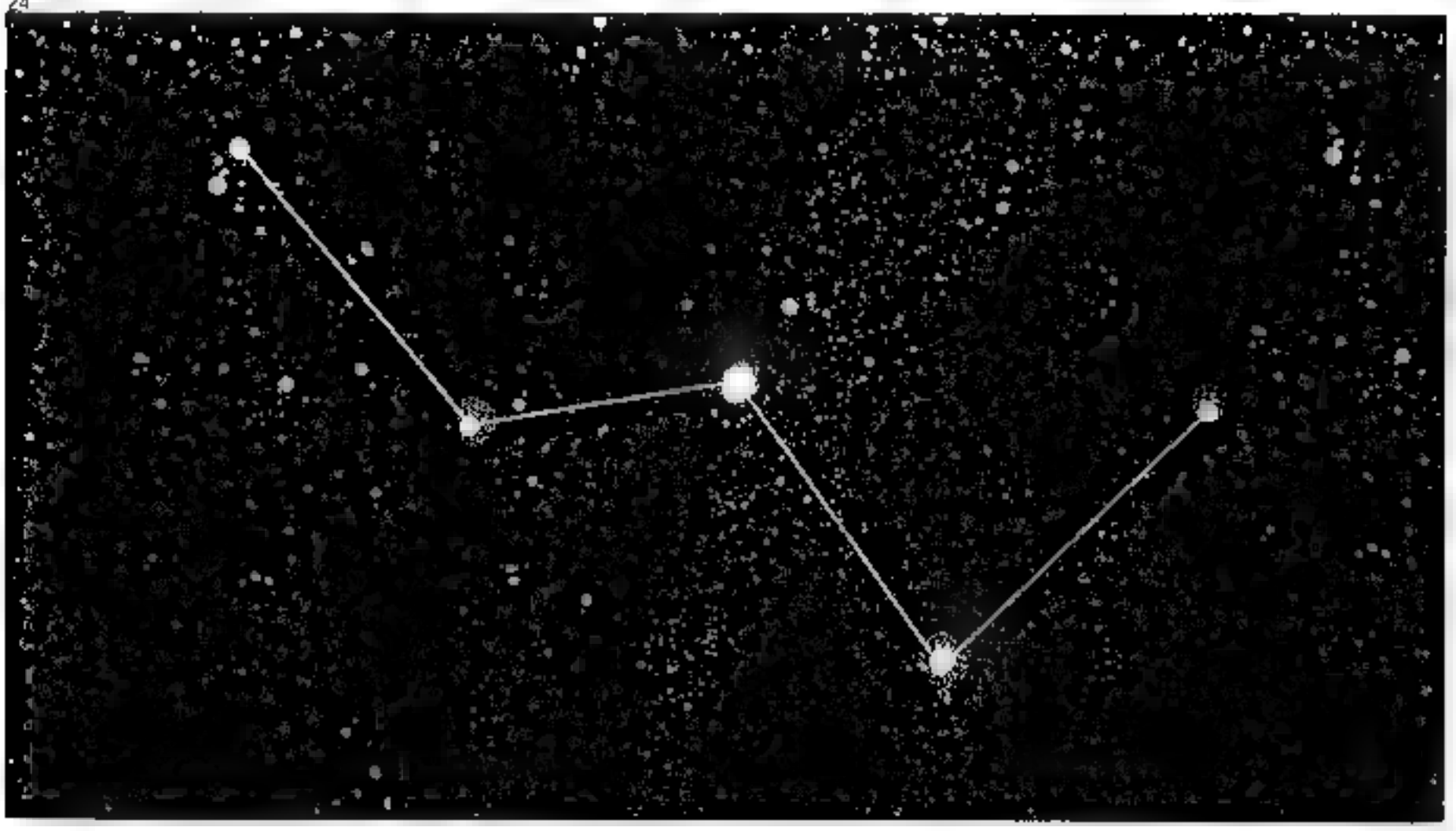







And the constellation opposing Ursa Major in the heavens that rotate around Polaris, chasing it all night long, is...
The constellation that includes the Big Dipper, "Ursa Major"...







"The seafolk of Wa dive into the ocean to gather fish and clams. They cover themselves in tattoos to drive off great fish and waterfowl "

-The History of Wei

Before the dawn of the rice farming civilization, a group of people that lived on the sea boasted great power in trade and

The center of their civilization was in North Kyushu

The most numerous seafolk, whose activity was limited to the coast, were called the "Azumi". They were based in the area of Shika Island.

These people were not exclusively fishers, and there were those that attempted trade with, or migration to, the Japanese peninsula.

And naturally, there were seafolk that existed around China and the Korean Peninsula.

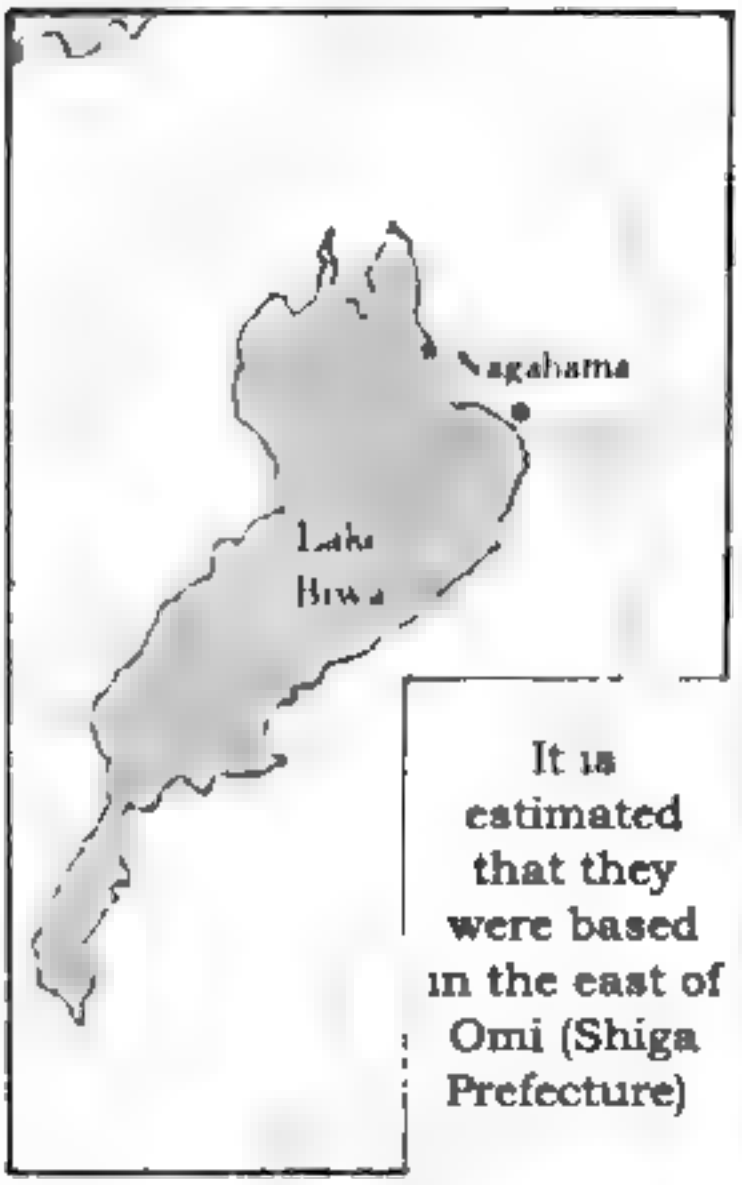


In contrast, the seafolk that had a wider range of activity, stretching from the coast to near the continent, were the "Munakata".

As the age of agriculture came, there were those that crossed the sea bearing the technologies of farming and ironworking.

These people may be known as the settler seafolk. It is likely that the "Okinaga" were among them.

The Okinaga Clan had the deepest ties to Okinaga Tarashi-hime... also known as Empress Jingu.




It is estimated that they were based in the east of Omi (Shiga Prefecture)

The Okinaga Clan excelled at ironworking and blacksmithing, and they used Lake Biwa's drainage system to transport their products Transportation by boat was likely to be their forte.

This led them to grow to become an influential clan in this region

Nagahama City,
Shiga Prefecture

# OKINAGA STEEL, INC.

I'm terribly sorry about the noise. Our CEO is expecting you.

So they're inside a steel factory...

AMA-STELLA

32

I thought you would never come. Thank you, Professor Munakata.

But the Church of Ama-Stella is slightly different...

There are many religions that are only after people's pockets.

I was actually intending on turning down any of your invitations, but I did some research on you.

Dearie me. Hohoho...

That said, this is haraly an amateur religion, where you would be pleased by forcing your employees to convert.

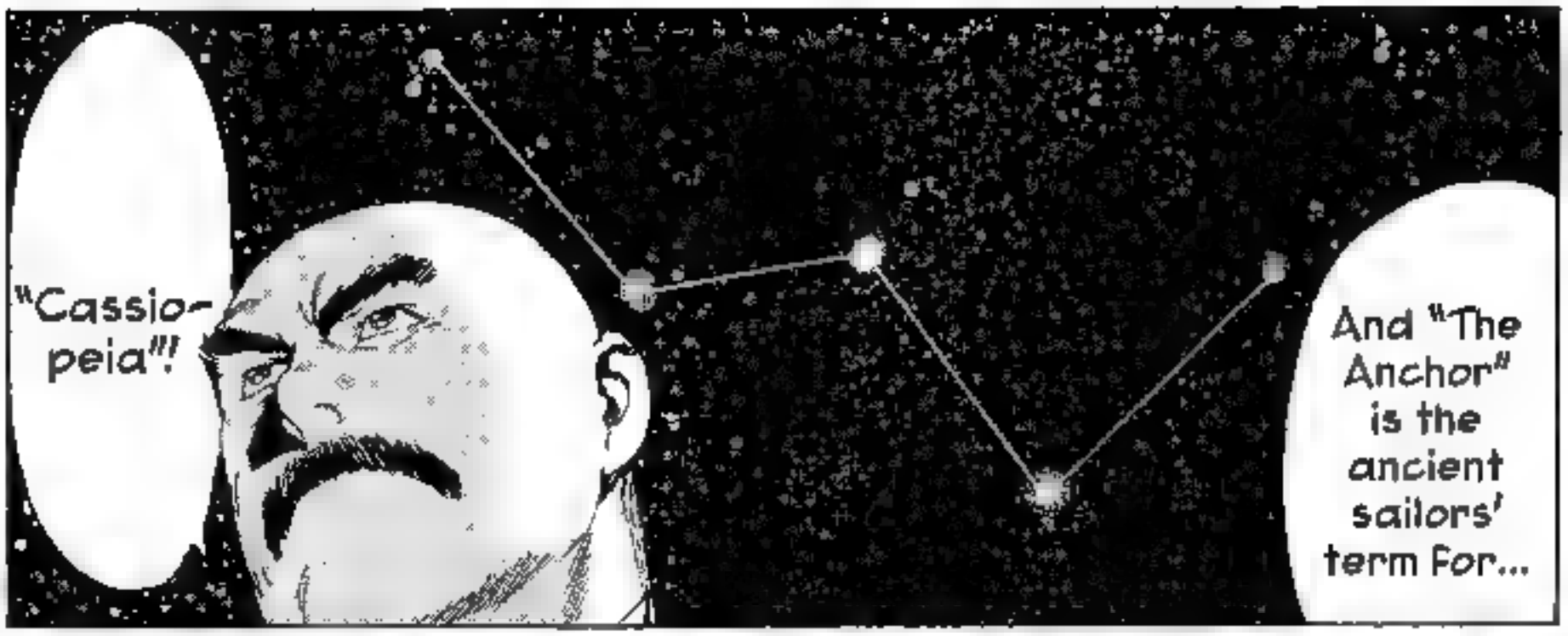
For one thing, you happen to be the wealthy CEO of one of the leading steel companies of West Japan. You wouldn't be interested in the money of others.

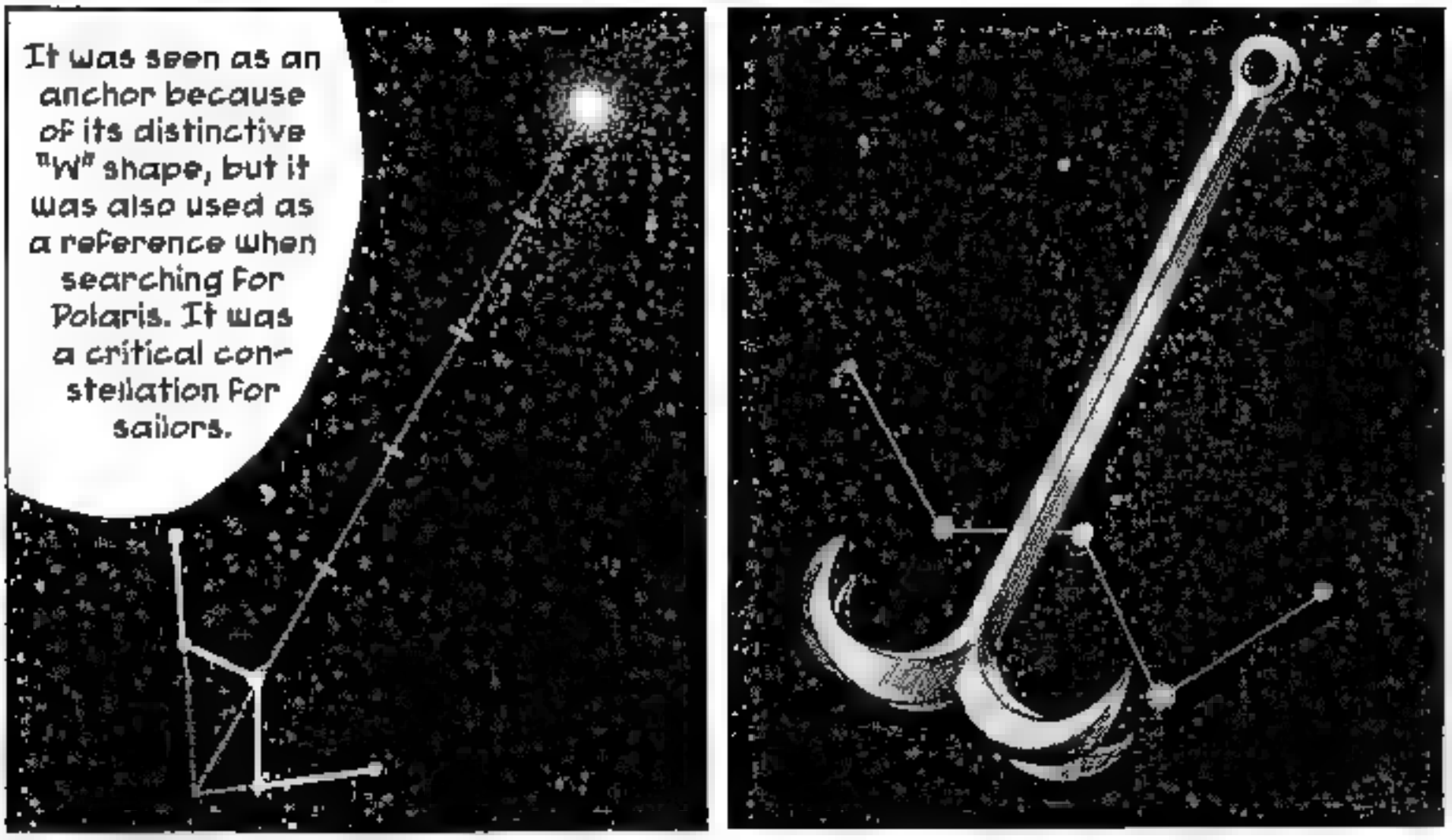
It's a sacred crest passed down exclusively in the Okinaga Clan.

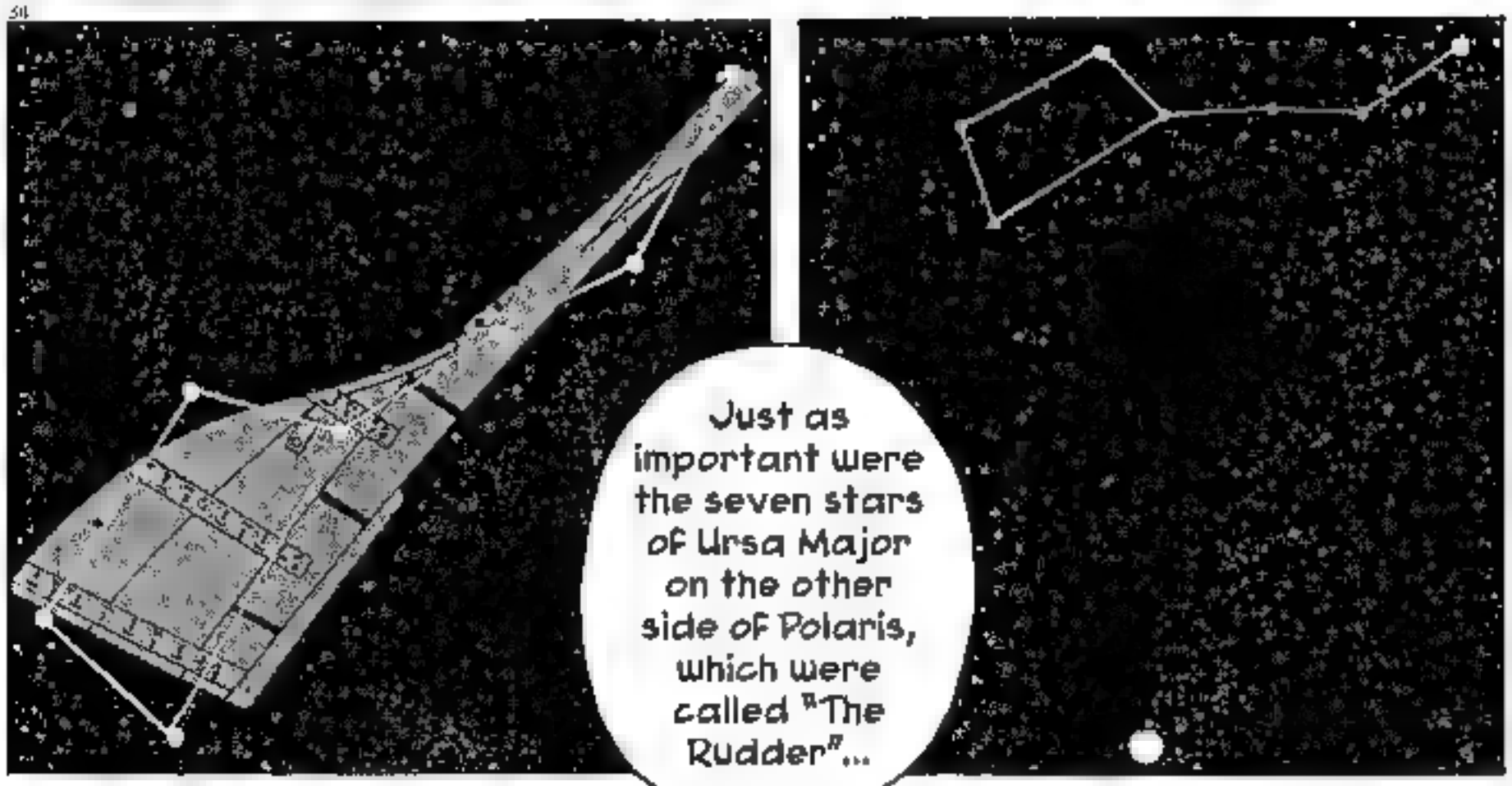
"The Anchor" ...

Now, Ms. Okinaga, the first thing I want to ask you is...

What does this "W", that appears to be the Church of Ama-Stella's symbol, mean...?


"Cassio-
peia"!
And "The Anchor" is the ancient sailors' term for...


It was seen as an anchor because of its distinctive "W" shape, but it was also used as a reference when searching for Polaris. It was a critical constellation for sailors.


Just as important were the seven stars of Ursa Major on the other side of Polaris, which were called "The Rudder"...

I figured that she had much in common with the Greek myth...

...I had the intuition that Cassiopeia may be the constellation of Jingu, the empress of the Okinaga Clan...

That led me to found the Church of Ama-Terasu.

In Greek mythology... Cassiopeia, queen consort of Cepheus, King of Ethiopia, boasted of her beauty and the beauty of her daughter, Andromeda.

But when she declared herself to be more beautiful than the Nereids, the sea nymphs, she incurred the wrath of Poseidon, god of the ocean...

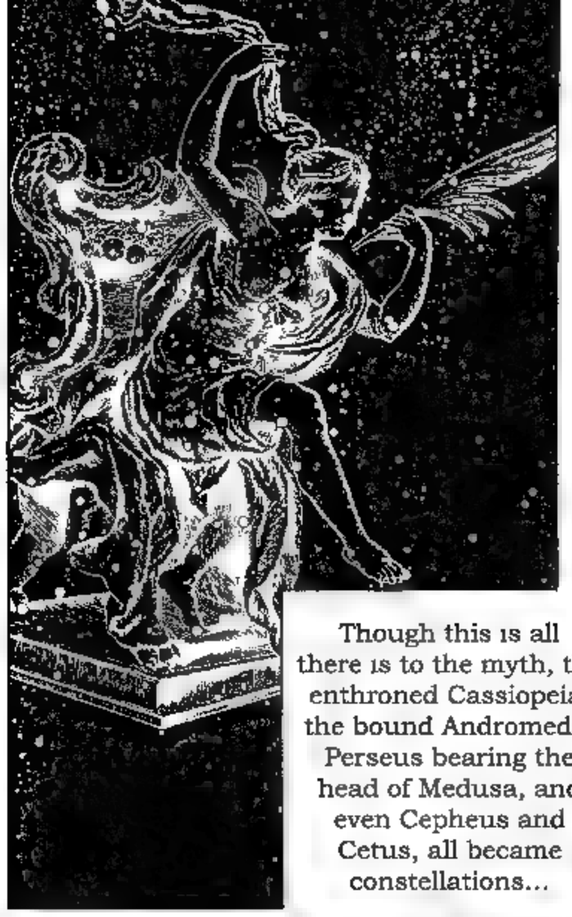
Poseidon unleashed a sea monster named Cetus, who destroyed Ethiopia with a great flood.

Trembling with fear, King Cepheus consulted the Oracle, who pronounced that he must offer Princess Andromeda as a sacrifice

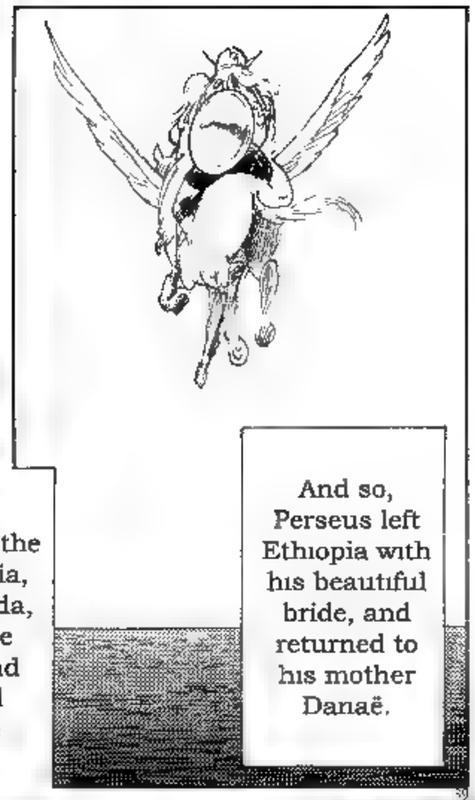
But then, along came the hero Perseus!

He was returning from slaying the hag named Medusa...

He killed Cetus using the head of Medusa, which turned all those who saw it to stone and saved Andromeda.



Though this is all there is to the myth, the enthroned Cassiopeia, the bound Andromeda, Perseus bearing the head of Medusa, and even Cepheus and Cetus, all became constellations...



And so, Perseus left Ethiopia with his beautiful bride, and returned to his mother Danaë.



Cassiopeia turned malevolent towards the hero, who wished to marry the princess, and had her original fiancé and his men attack him, but..





I was hoping you could give it some thought...

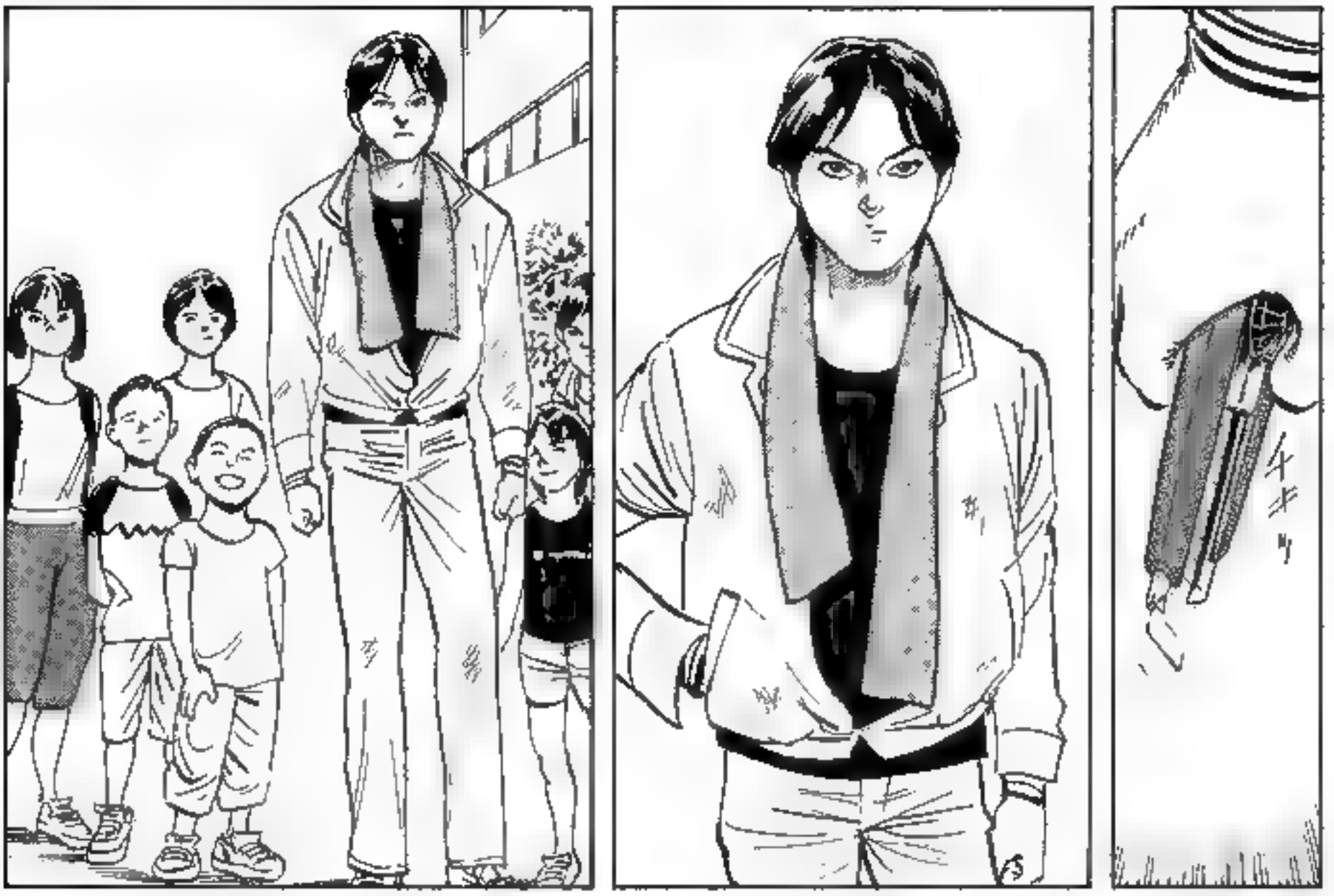
So do you suppose my intuition was wrong?

No matter how you argue it, there aren't any similarities between the myths of Cassiopeia and Empress Jingu...

Frankly speaking, I don't know if it's even worthy of thought.

Not that I mind themes like these ...

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Ha-neul, say hi to Professor Munakata. The rest of you, too...






This was originally meant to be a daycare for my employees' children...
Some of them are the children of North Korean escapee families who came through South Korea. Ha-neul is one of them...
But eventually we began taking in children with problems and orphans who lost their parents in traffic accidents.
42
So you knew ahead of time that I was joining the study on Empress Jingu's mausoleum...

"Omon!"
...?

I want you to help "Omon!" (Mother)... Please.

Lake Biwa

As Empress Jingu's ship was crossing the Seto Inland Sea, a monster appeared suddenly, and was about to capsize the ship

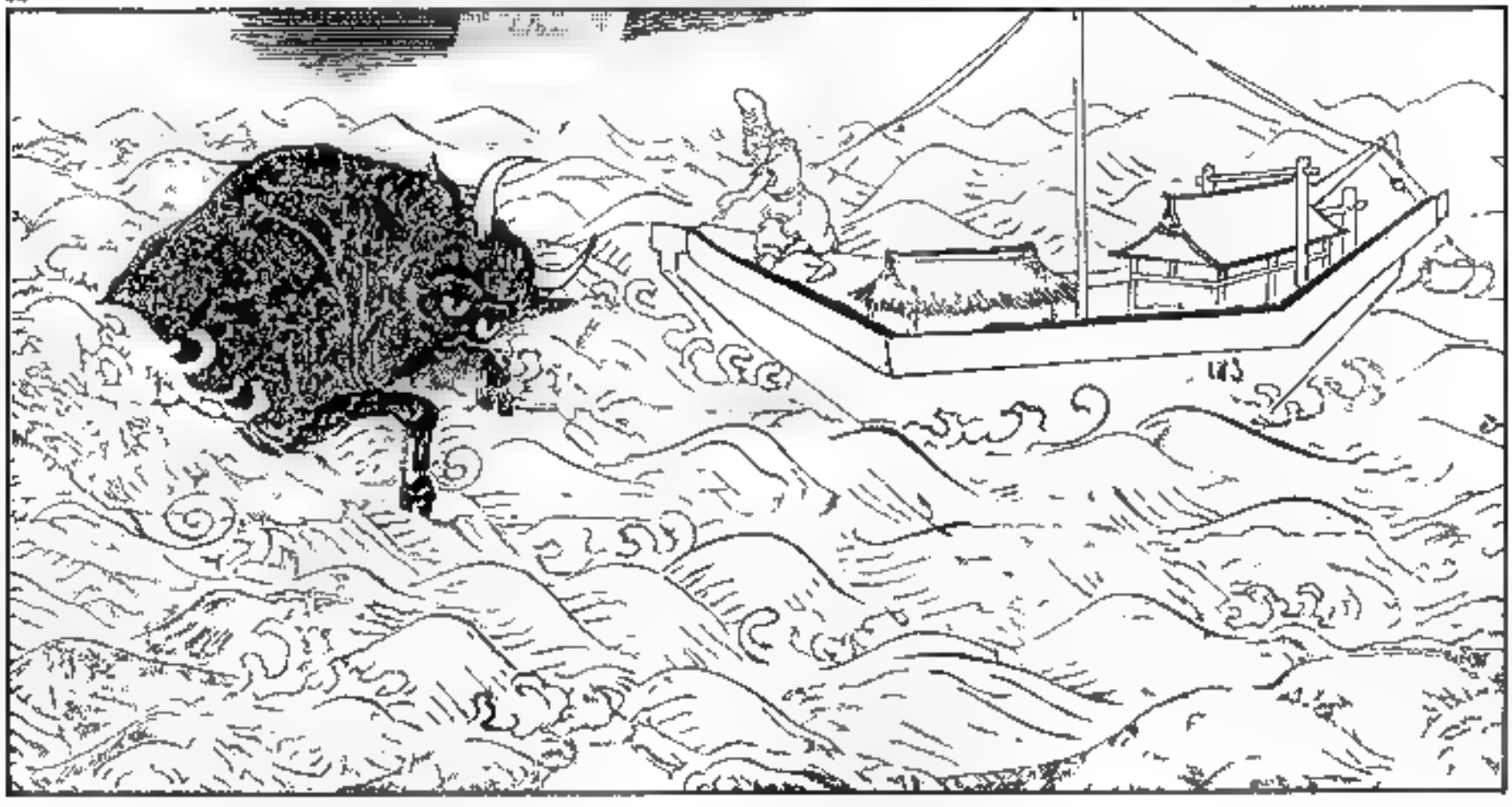
I recalled that the "Chronicles of the Province of Bizen", one of the "Chronicles" that were compiled between the Nara and Heian Periods, contains this text

Just then, the Empress' guardian deity "Sumiyoshi" descended in the form of an old man, and tossed the ox. Thus, that area came to be known as "Ushimarobi", and eventually, "Ushimado".

It was a giant ox.

And scholars have already pointed out something bizarre about the Muromachi-period scroll called the "Stories of the Shinto Deity Hachiman", stored at an American museum.

This scene is also depicted in picture scrolls...



[redacted] the constellation "Taurus".

The oldest known star chart is the "Vienna Manuscript", an early 15th-Century work. There's a possibility that the Muromachi-era Japanese had seen a similar chart.

And in the first place, the [redacted] be explained by the myth of Taurus.

It's easy to write this off as a coincidence, but they have many things [redacted]

Taurus is based on the myth that Zeus, ruler of the gods, fell in love with the beautiful Europa, approached her in the form of a bull, and took her to a faraway island.

In other words, it was a bull that crossed the sea.

And this brings to mind the theory that the Three Gods of Sumiyoshi, worshipped in Sumiyoshi Grand Shrine, are represented in Orion's Belt.

Furthermore, Taurus is right next to Orion. While these two are unrelated in Greek mythology, they are positioned in such a way that suggests a confrontation.

So Orion is the god Sumiyoshi... Do you follow me?

This means that the Japanese knew about Greek myths and constella-tions...

during the Muromachi Period... No! At the very earliest, when the Chronicles were written!?

The god Sumiyoshi fights the bull that appeared from the sea... That would mean that the legend in the Chronicles was created to match the connection between Taurus and Orion.

by the people that brought them there...

They may have been taken apart and freely recomposed to match the constellations, while en route to Japan,

They may not have remained as myths all the way through.

By the Seafolk!!

SIGN: KAGOSHIMA AIRPORT

Hayato Town,
Kagoshima Prefecture
Kagoshima Shrine






Professor Munakata! I'm sorry to keep you waiting...

Good morning!

But are these people all in the Church of Ama-Stella...?

Well, I did say I'd come to a conclusion, and I'd give an explanation when we reached Kyushu...

I'm terribly sorry, but I wanted my employees and their families to hear your theory this time.

If Ms. Okinaga believes what you're about to say, we'd love to hear it, and learn more about history from it.

No, no. We're just employees at Okinaga Steel, with no connection to the Church. But Ms. Okinaga is such a caring person, and we all admire her very much.

Hohoho! We're treating this as a company trip. We stopped at Ibusuki last night to enjoy the hot springs.

Still, you closed the factory just for this...?

Sorry ...

Ha-neul... It looks like this is what I get for going along with your plans.

Good grief So now I'm a tour guide.



Hachiman is the god of blacksmiths, but he's also considered to be one and the same as Empress Jingu's son, Emperor Ojin.

Kagoshima Shrine used to be known by the name "Sho Hachiman Shrine".

There was a king of Ancient China named King Chin, who had a daughter named Ohirume.

There's a legend about him...

But of all things, his seven-year-old daughter became pregnant

When the king questioned her, she said that it was because the morning sunlight struck her bosom while she slept.

It must be the work of a god or a demon. .!!

Trembling in fear, the king placed his daughter and the son she gave birth to inside an airtight box, and sent it off to sea.

It drifted along the waves until it reached Osumi in South Kyushu.



The prince grew and made many exploits, and was worshipped as Sho Hachiman. Meanwhile, Ohirume moved to Kashi in the province of Chikuzen, and was worshipped as "Bodhisattva Shomo".

A mother and her demigod child are sent out to sea in a sealed vessel, and arrive in a foreign land...

This is a legend told amongst the SeaFolk called the "Hollow Boat".

The Kojiki states that Empress Jingu hid the prince inside a funeral boat to deceive the eyes of Oshikuma-no-Miko, who desired the throne. Some see this as a variation of the "Hollow Boat".



And in the first place, many people tend to see the prince, who was born after Emperor Chuai's death, to be the son of the Empress and the god Sumiyoshi.

There is a story similar to the Hollow Boat in the mythology of the distant land of Greece!

By the way...

56

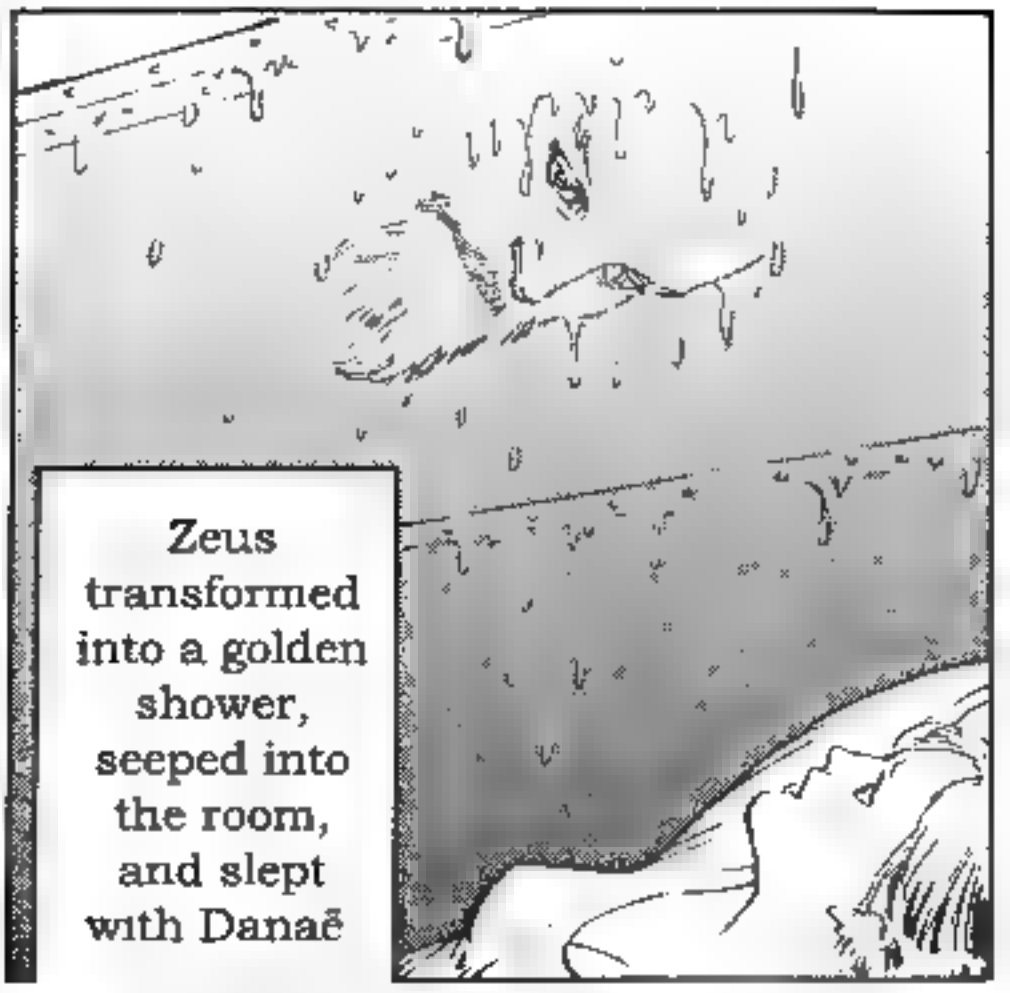
King Acrisius of Argos had a beautiful daughter named Danaë.

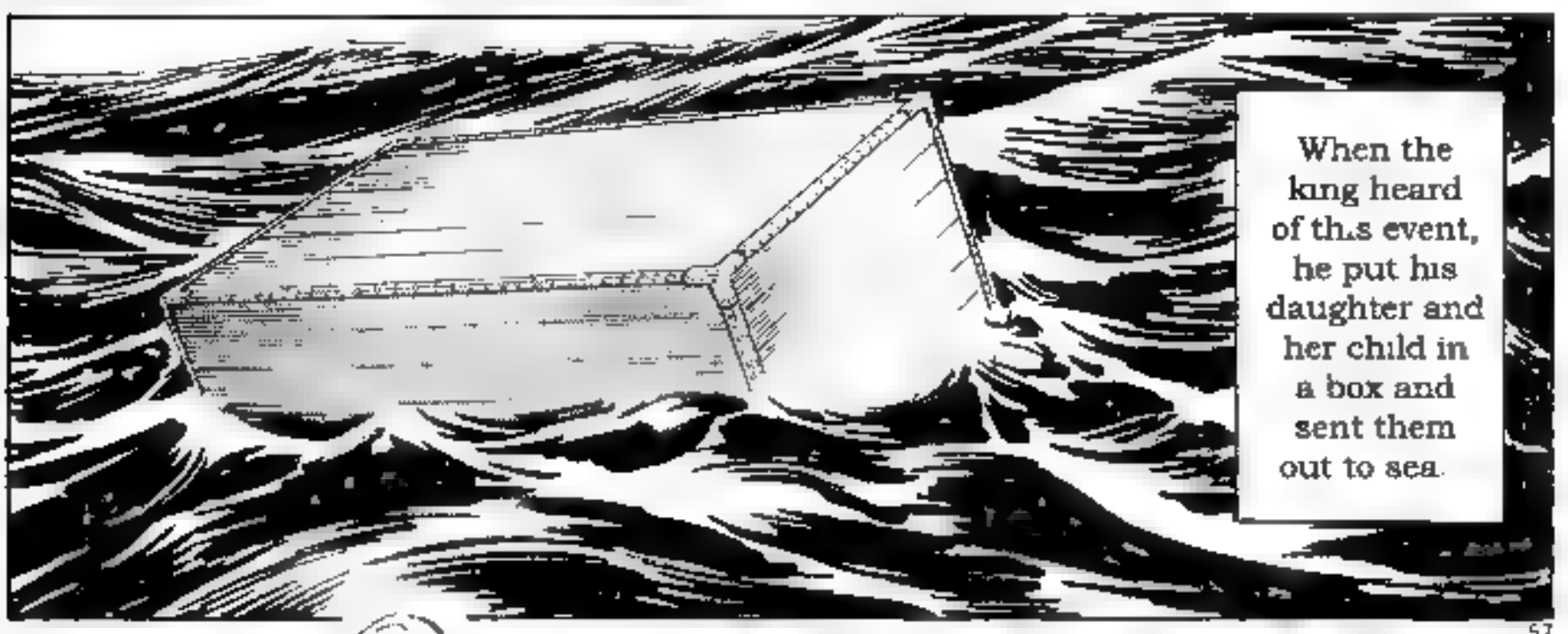
But the omnipotent and lustful Zeus could not overlook such a beautiful maiden.

But there was a prophecy that his grandchild born from Danaë would take the king's life.

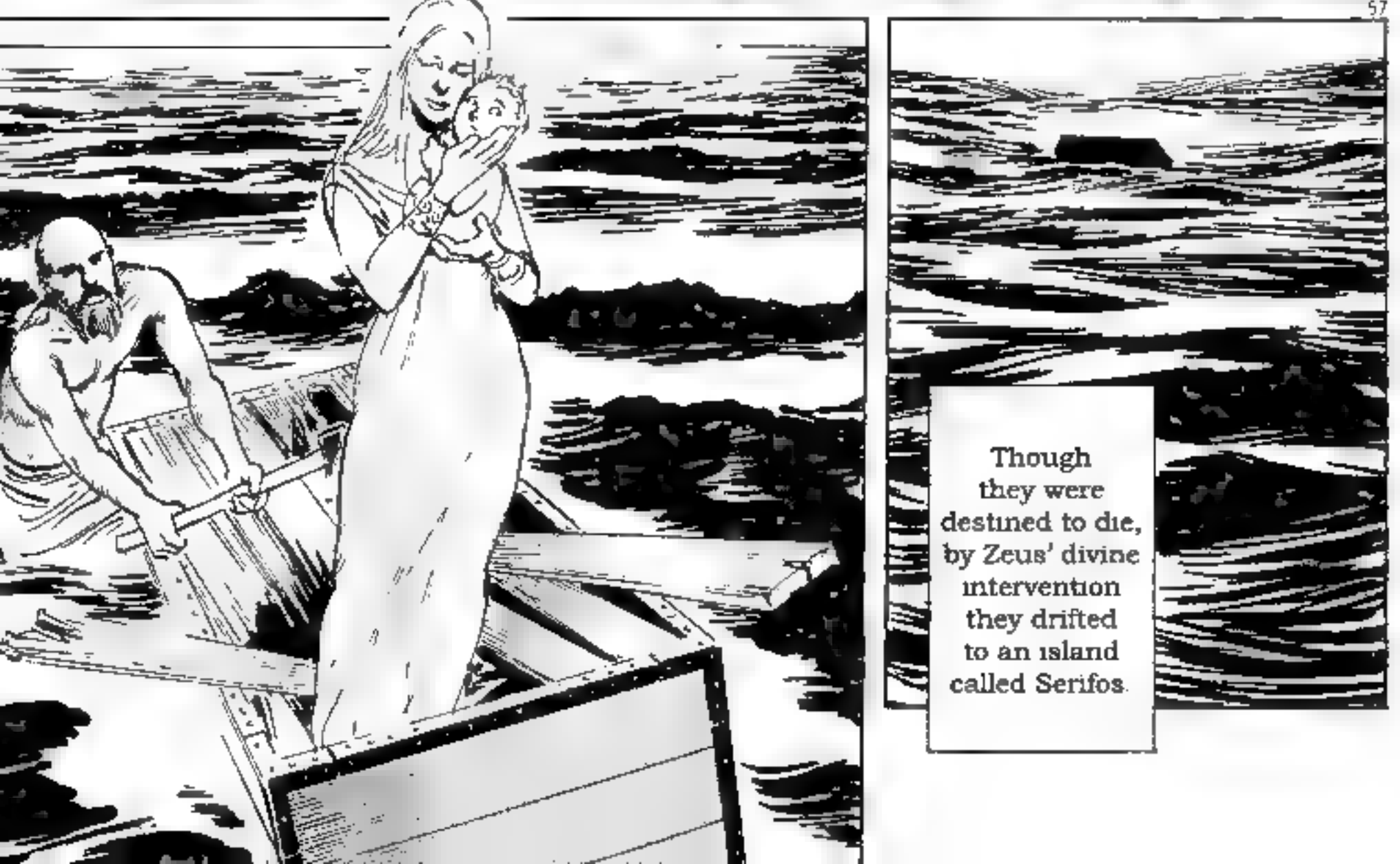
Out of fear, King Acrisius sealed his daughter in a bronze room under-ground, to keep her away from all men.




Zeus transformed into a golden shower, seeped into the room, and slept with Danaë


When the king heard of this event, he put his daughter and her child in a box and sent them out to sea.




Though they were destined to die, by Zeus' divine intervention they drifted to an island called Serifos.

He grew to become the hero that defeated Medusa and saved Cassiopeia's daughter Andromeda.

This son of Danaë and Zeus... of man and god, was Perseus!

I never knew Perseus had such origins...

T...That's just like the Hollow Boat! Is that proof that the SeaFolk's mythology came all the way across the sea from Greece!?

58

If you look at Danaë and Cassiopeia in tandem, their relationship is like Empress Jingu and Ojin!

After Perseus married Andromeda, he became Cassiopeia's son-in-law.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Emperor Chuai (no active role) | Empress Jingu = Okinaga Tarashi hime = Ohirume | Queen Cassiopeia = Queen Danaë | King Cepheus (no active role) |
| | Gives birth to the child of a god (Sumiyoshi) (?) | Gives birth to the child of a god (Zeus) | |
| | Sent out to sea with child in a box Hidden on a funeral boat. | Sent out to sea with child in a box. | |
| | Child grows to become Emperor Ojin (Hachiman) | Child grows to become the hero Perseus. | |






59

When the Empress called together all the gods of Japan for the invasion of Silla, the only one that would not come was Isora, who lived at the bottom of the sea.

Furthermore, the legend of Empress Jingu and Azumi-no-Isora is included in the "Taiheiki".

He was ashamed of his unsightly appearance, covered in oysters and barnacles, with seaweed and insects crawling around him.

But the two pearls that Isora brought, called the "Kanju and Manju", could control the tides at will, and flooded Silla

If that was the case, then the constellation "Cetus", the monster that attacked Andromeda, may have been "Isora" to the Seafolk

I wonder if Azumi-no-Isora, ancestor god of the seafolk of the Azumi Clan, may have been a whale

That would mean that the "Kanju and Manju", which caused floods, may have coincided with Anaromeaa

And there was apparently a tribe whose mythology portrayed Andromeda as a witch that caused floods.

Emperor Chuai = Cepheus

Empress Jingu = Cassiopeia

Emperor Ojin = Perseus

Kanju and Manju = Andromeda

Isora = Cetus

.....

This goddess, with the power to command all fish at will, and cause waves that could destroy her enemies on land, yet with deep love for her child... Otarashi-hime became the prototype of Empress Jingu.

The Seafolk freely reconstructed the myths that came from the West, and told their own legend of a sacred mother and child.

I assume it started out as a myth of a motherly goddess named "Otarashi-hime" and her child...

Now this is where mythology stops and history begins...

Goguryeo

Silla

T'ang

Baek-gang

Baekje

On the Korean Peninsula, the nation of Baekje, who was on friendly terms with Japan, was under attack by an alliance of Silla and T'ang.

During the late 7th Century, following the Taika Reforms, an empress named Saimei ruled the throne...

Her son, Prince Naka-no-Oe, sent his general, Azumi-no-Hirafu, most likely of Seafolk origins, to Korea. However, they suffered defeat at Baekgang at the hands of the T'ang and Silla alliance

Hearing word of Baekje's downfall, Empress Saimei led her own army to Kyushu, and prepared to attack...

But the empress, nearly seventy years old, suddenly passed away

It's been indicated that this historical fact subtly resonates with the myth of Empress Jingu.

The factual invasion of Silla ended in defeat, and the myth may have been created to cancel it out.

672 CE
The
Jinshin
War

Okinaga
Yokogawa

Lake
Biwa

The final battle occurred near the shores of Lake Biwa, and many say that the cooperation of the Okinaga Clan, with their stronghold in Eastern Omi, contributed to Prince Oama's victory

Okinaga
Yokogawa

Lake
Biwa

Omi

Prince Naka-no-Oe became Emperor Tenji and moved the capital to Omi, but after his death, his brother, Prince Oama, fought Tenji's son Prince Otomo for the throne.

Yoshinomiya

It truly was the assistance of the Seafolk clan brought Prince Oama to the throne... as Emperor Tenmu.

One of the state undertakings that began in Tenmu's court was compiling history... the compilation of the Kojiki and Nihon Shoki.

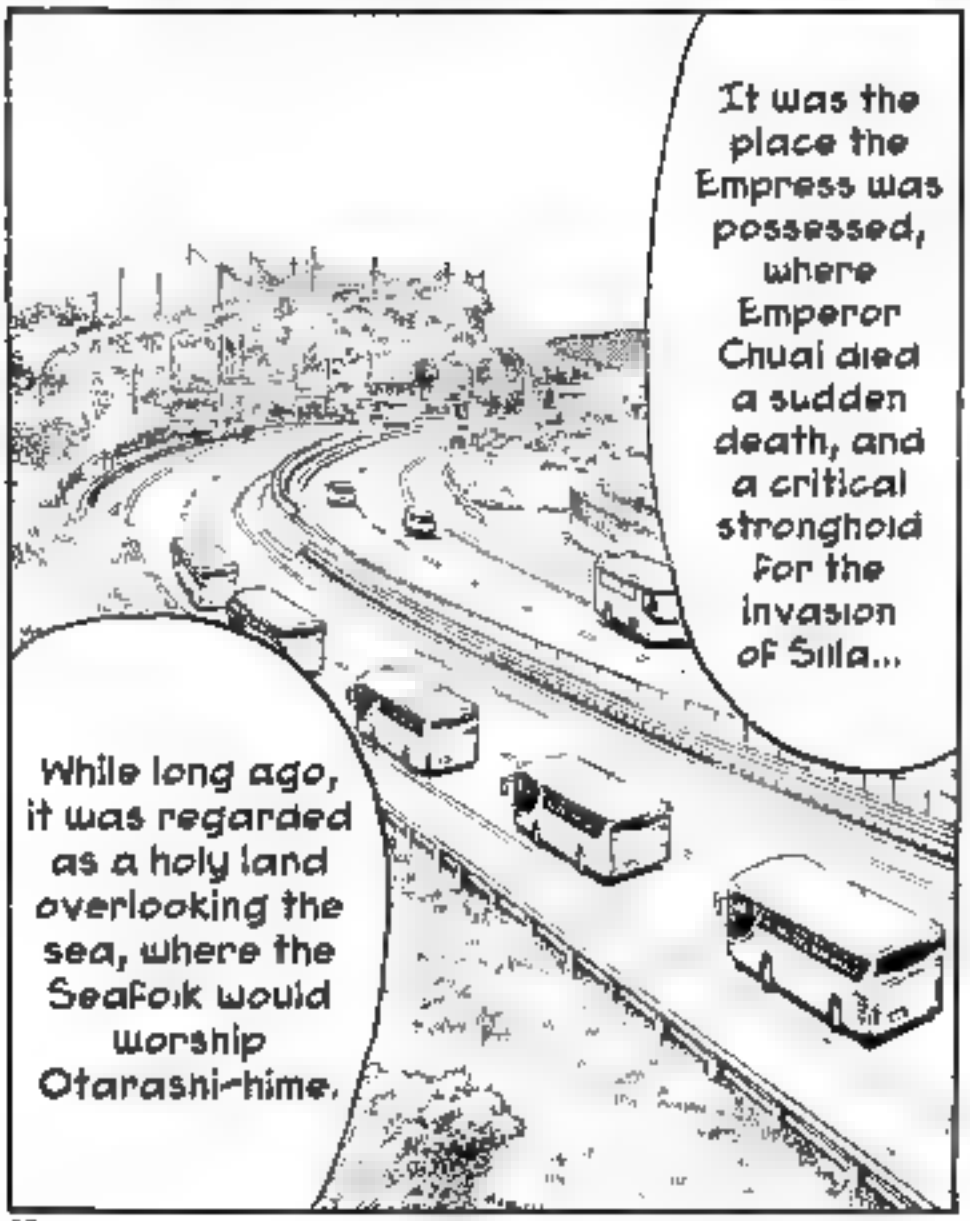
Many major clans did the same out of pride for their lineage.

There is a possibility that the Okinaga Clan, having become the influential clan that they were, introduced their own myth of Otarashi-hime as Okinaga Tarashi-hime.




But the myth of the empress that invaded the Korean Peninsula and subjugated Silla in a single strike came to live on for generations, as a symbol to elevate national prestige.

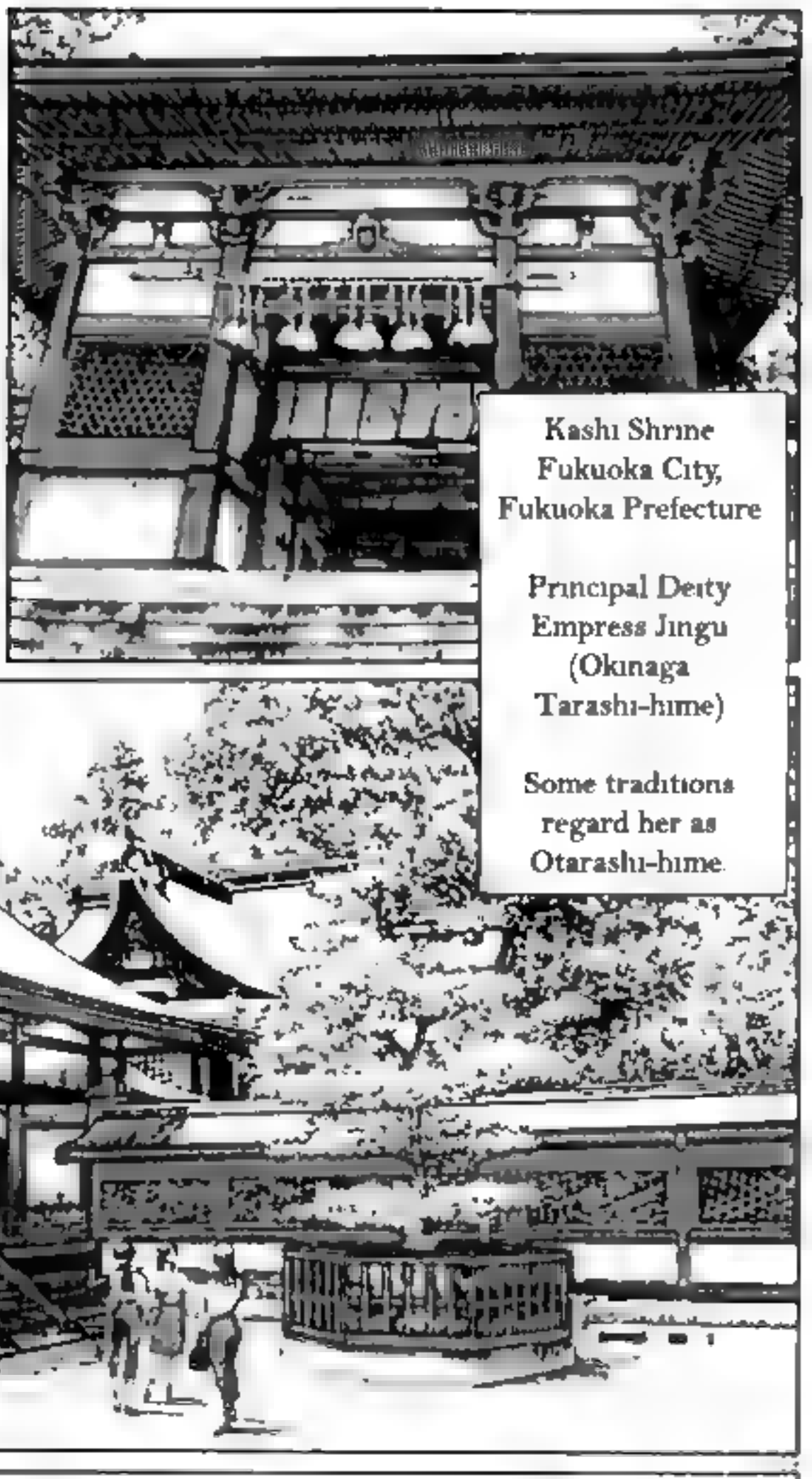



It was the place the Empress was possessed, where Emperor Chuai died a sudden death, and a critical stronghold for the invasion of Silla...
While long ago, it was regarded as a holy land overlooking the sea, where the Seafolk would worship Otarashi-hime.


I believe that "Kashi Shrine" in Fukuoka, our current destination, was created in response to the myth of Empress Jingu.







Kashi Shrine
Fukuoka City,
Fukuoka Prefecture

Principal Deity
Empress Jingu
(Okinaga
Tarashi-hime)

Some traditions
regard her as
Otarashi-hime.



We'll meet at Kashi Shrine.

But I'm going to give you a bit of homework, Taki...

I gotta do my homework before he gets here... Help me out, you two!

Cassiopeia!?

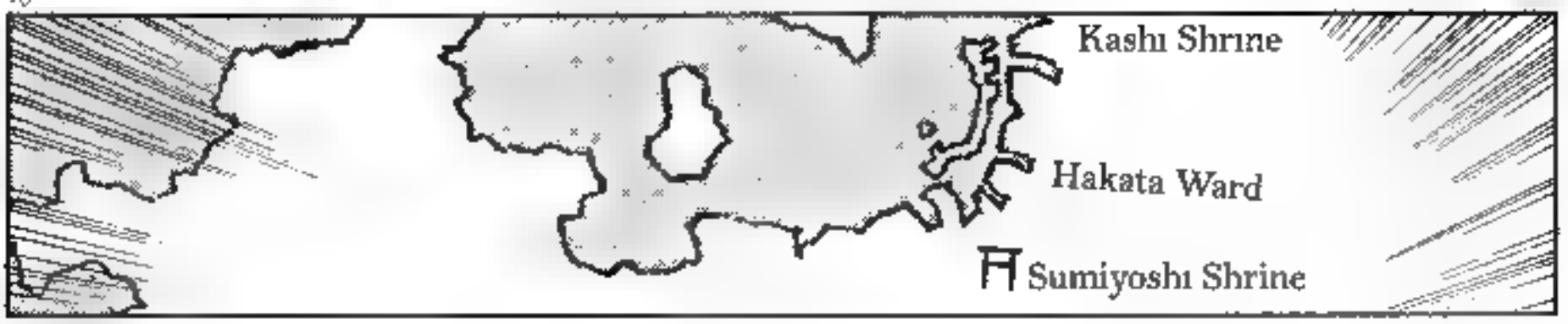
and try to find Cassiopeia.

Connect all the ancient SeaFolk shrines around the Genkai Sea related to Empress Jingu, starting with Kashi Shrine...

Around the Genkai Sea... Well, to start off, let's look near the coast. The closest one to Kashi Shrine is...

THERE'S JUST TOO MANY SHRINES !!





Yeah. Sumiyoshi's a Seafolk god through and through, and he's got undeniable ties to Empress Jingu. We can't leave it out!

I've heard that Sumiyoshi Shrine in Hakata is older than Sumiyoshi Grand Shrine in Osaka, and the main shrine to Sumiyoshi nationwide...

Sumiyoshi Shrine (Fukuoka City)

Then there's Shikanoumi Shrine on Shika Island! This is a sacred site for the Azumi Seafolk, where Azumi-no-Isora is enshrined.

Shikanoumi Shrine (Fukuoka City)


Now can these three make the right "V" of the "W"?

# KASSIOPEIA

# KASUNOMIYA

In Fukushima Prefecture, there's a shrine called Chinkaiseki Hachiman Shrine, at the base of the Itoshima Peninsula overlooking the Genkai Sea

Nijo Town,
Fukushima Prefecture
Chinkaiseki
Hachiman Shrine

And the last one is "Shomo Shrine" on Iki Island

They say that during the invasion of Silla, the pregnant Empress Jingu placed two stones on her waist in order to delay the birth... This shrine worships these two Chinkaiseki.

Iki City, Nagasaki Prefecture Shomo Shrine

They say that it was where Empress Jingu's army was moored, and it was also known as "Kashi Shomo Shrine".

The boundaries of the territory given to Kashi Shrine are at Sumiyoshi to the south, and Iki to the west.

So when you connect all the shrines related to Empress Jingu, including Chinkaiseki Hachiman Shrine, in a way that surrounds the Genkai Sea...

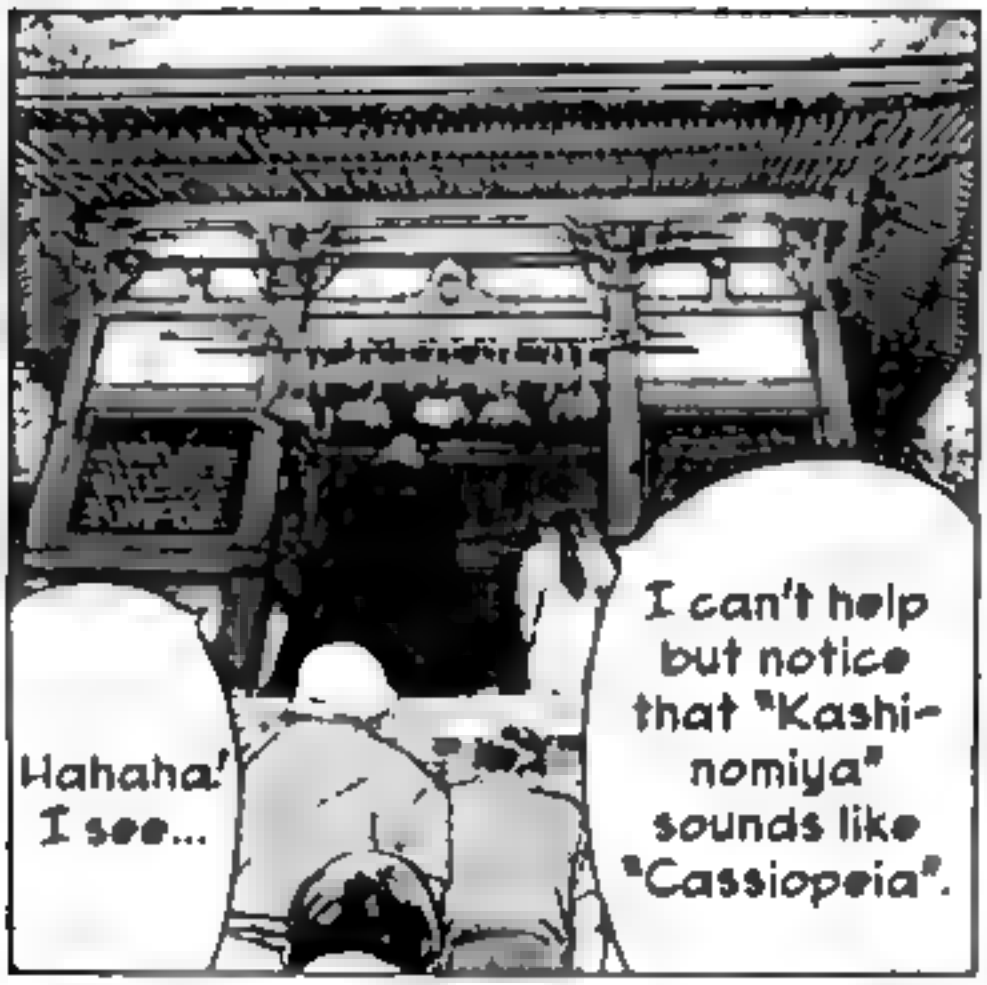
Ohhh
...

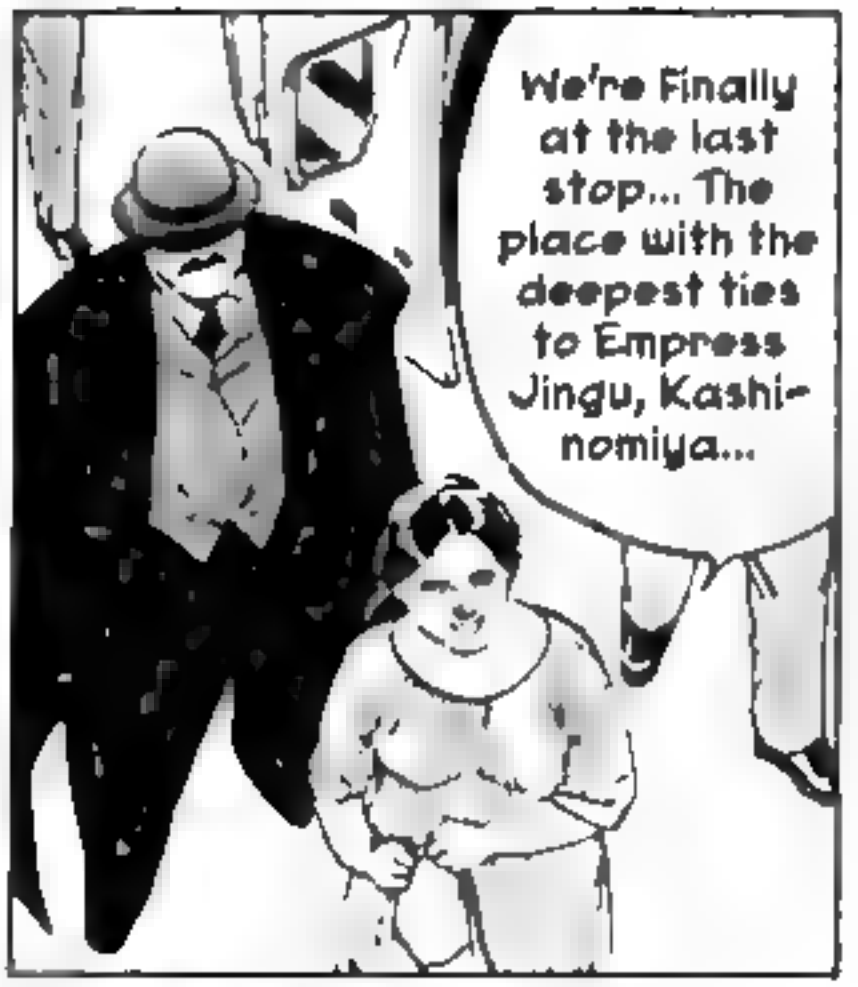
.....

All of these shrines were on slightly elevated lands with good views, so it was possible for them to confirm one another's positions by sight, as they built them in the form of Cassiopeia.

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SIGN:
KASHI
SHRINE


Hahaha! I see...
I can't help but notice that "Kashi-nomiya" sounds like "Cassiopeia".


We're Finally at the last stop... The place with the deepest ties to Empress Jingu, Kashi-nomiya...


This area is known as Kasuya District. Kashi, Kasuya... This either substantiates the Empress Jingu = Cassiopeia theory, or else ..


Oh, sorry I'm late.
Uncle!

Oh...

Huh ...

There's so many people ...

It looks like you got everything right. Good.

Here's my homework.

Never thought I'd see a cannon on shrine grounds.

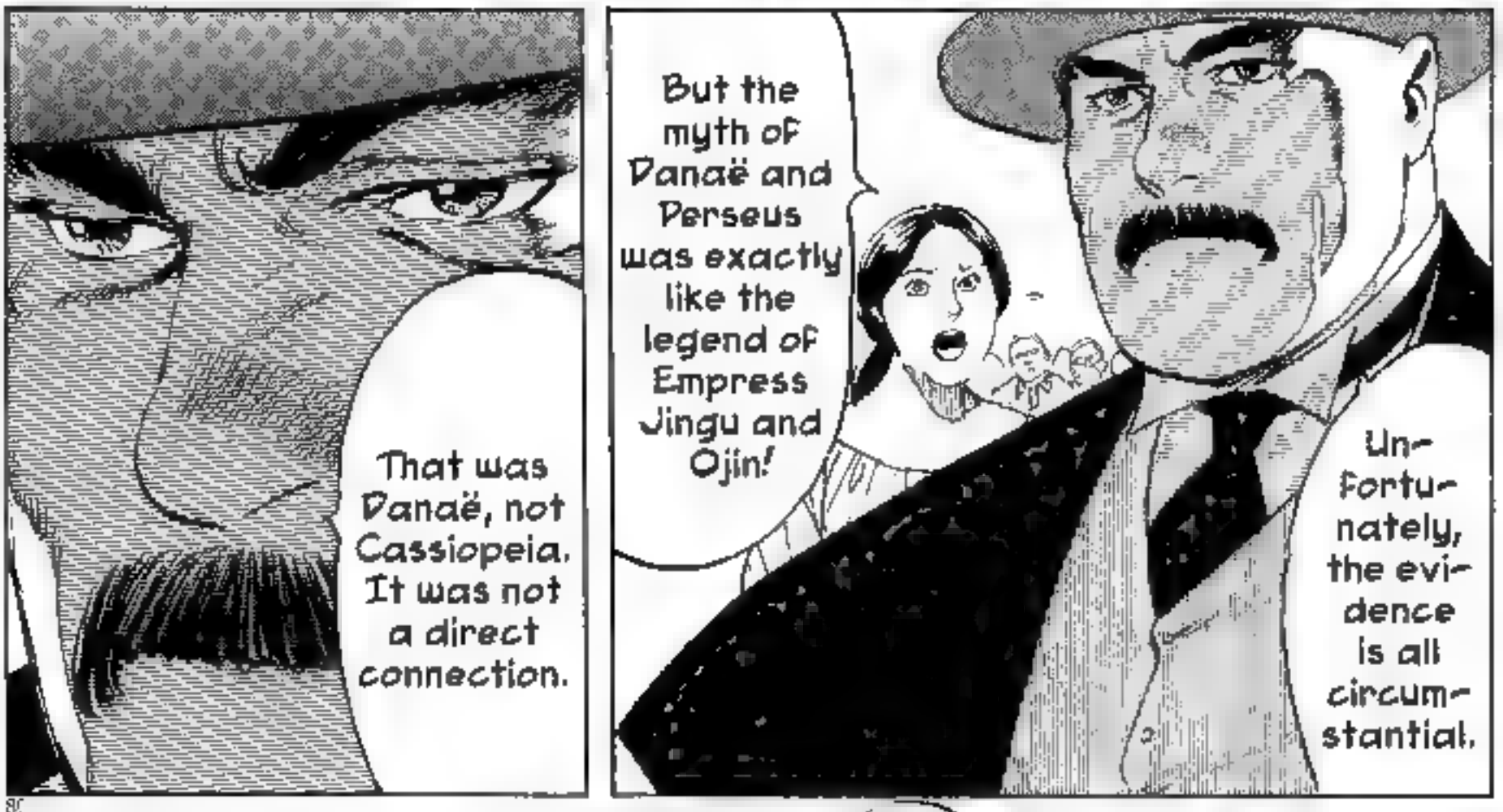
So this was the cannon of the warship Settsu, offered in the Taisho Period ...

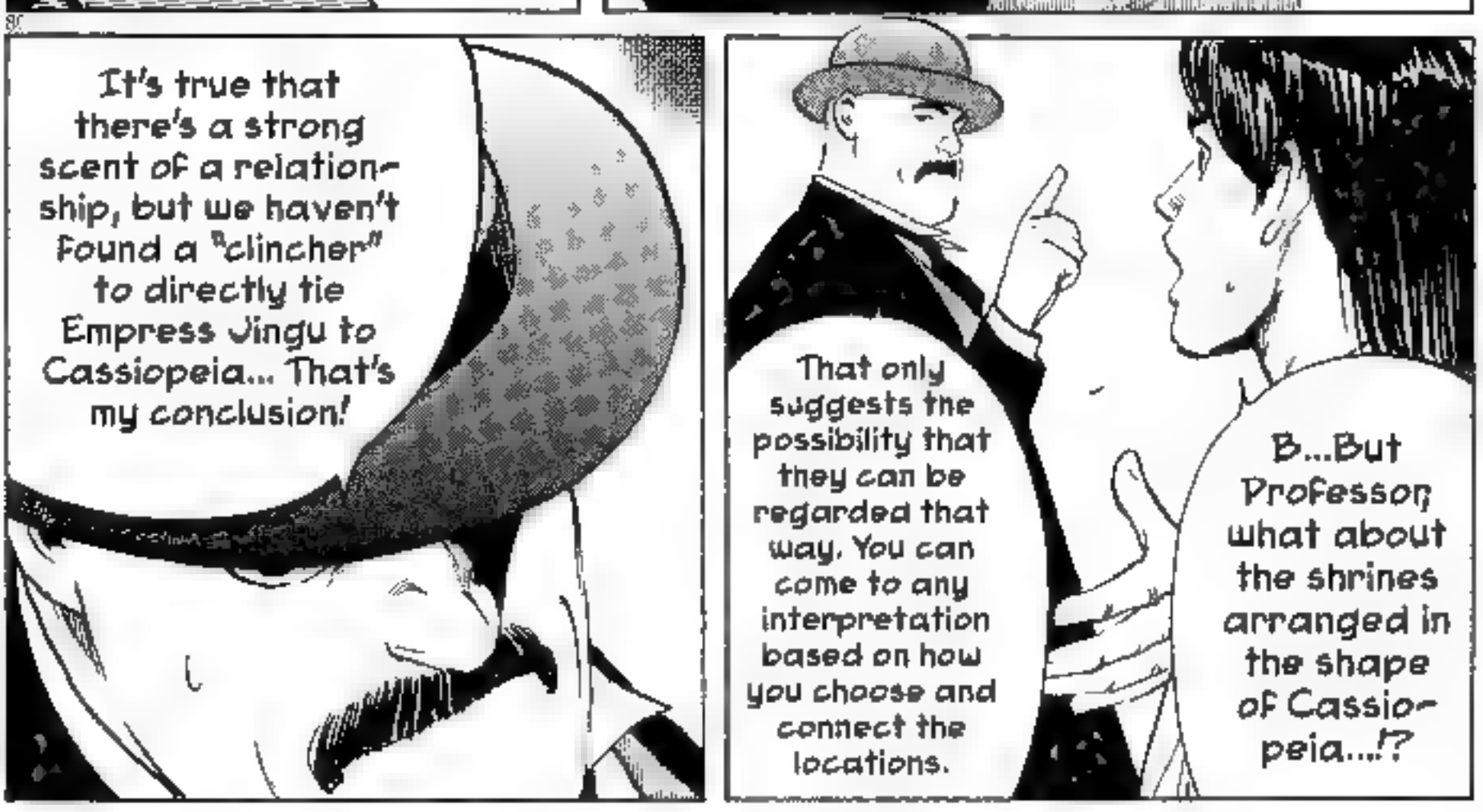
They're probably interested in this for work-related reasons...

There are some children from the orphanage here, but most of them are employees of Okinaga Steel and their families.


OLD SHRINE RUINS
Because Kashi Shrine was said to be the headquarters of the invasion of Silla, it must have been later considered a shrine to war...
Now, everyone listen up...
79
I was unable to prove Ms. Okinaga's shocking proposition that tied Empress Jingu to Cassiopeia!
The stories stop here at Kashi Shrine. I've introduced a number of hypotheses to you, but that's all I can do.


Y...YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS! AFTER ALL THAT EVIDENCE !?


That was Danaë, not Cassiopeia. It was not a direct connection.
But the myth of Danaë and Perseus was exactly like the legend of Empress Jingu and Ojin!
Un-fortu-nately, the evi-dence is all circum-stantial.


It's true that there's a strong scent of a relation-ship, but we haven't found a "clincher" to directly tie Empress Jingu to Cassiopeia... That's my conclusion!
That only suggests the possibility that they can be regarded that way. You can come to any interpretation based on how you choose and connect the locations.
B...But Professor, what about the shrines arranged in the shape of Cassio-peia...!?




Didn't this all start with this Ms. Okinaga trying to get Uncle to prove her outrageous idea? It was an impossible task to begin with!


...I've never seen Uncle give up partway through a study before...!!






And the fact is, he couldn't find an answer. It must be hard for him to admit defeat in front of so many people...

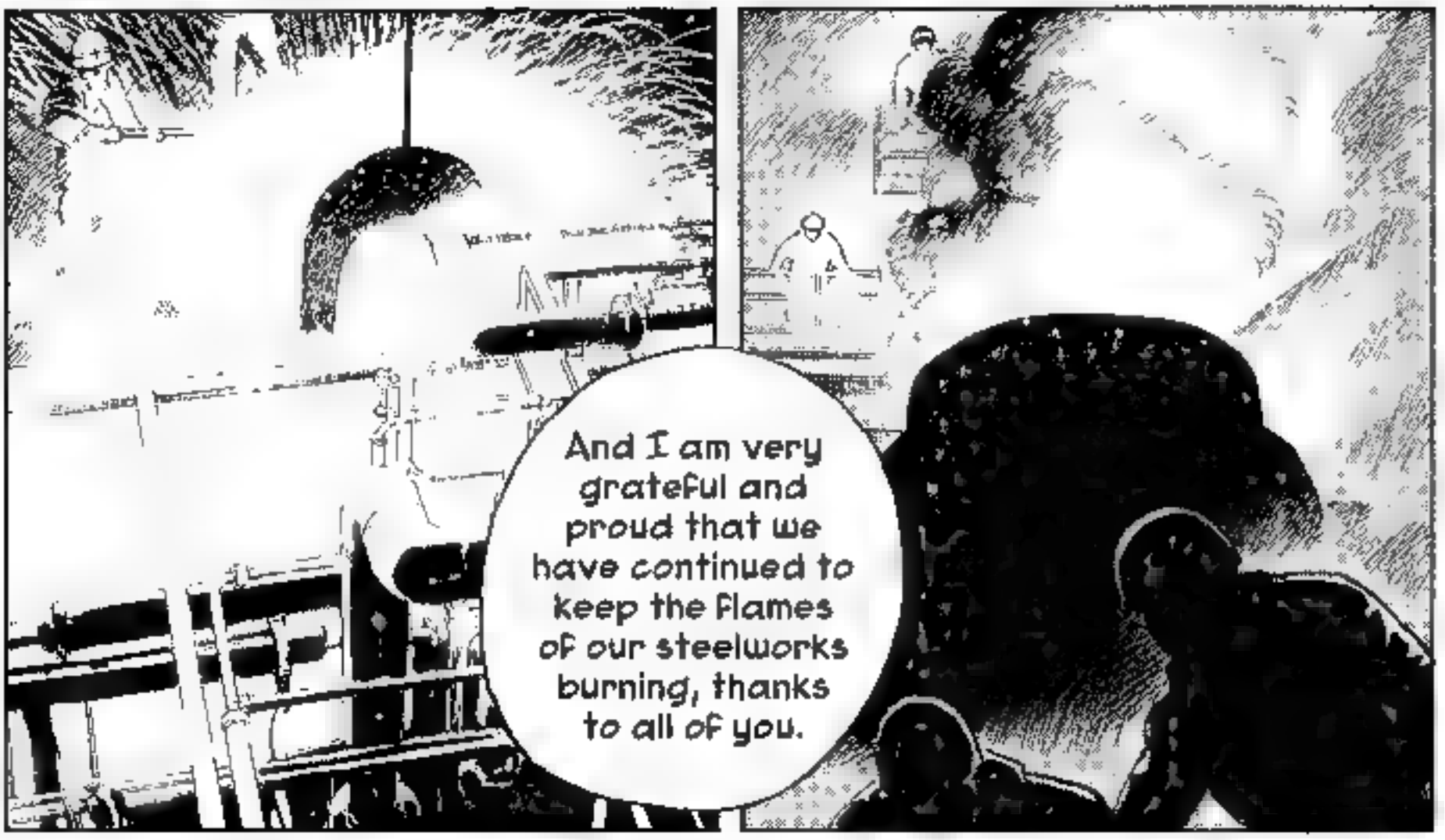
.....

Thank you for everything, Professor Munakata...

You all heard what he said...

They came bearing ironworking and blacksmithing technologies, and settled to the east of Lake Biwa.

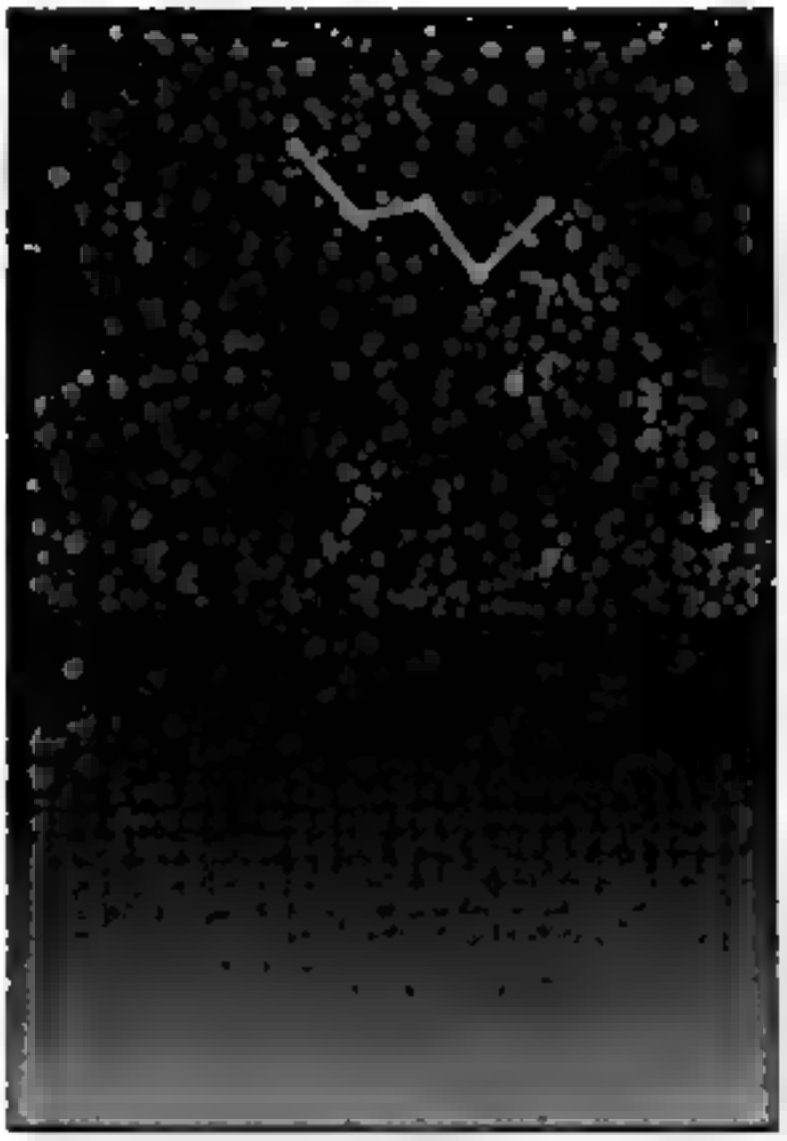
I have heard that the Okinaga Clan, my ancestors, were a clan of seafolk that settled in Japan from the Korean Peninsula.

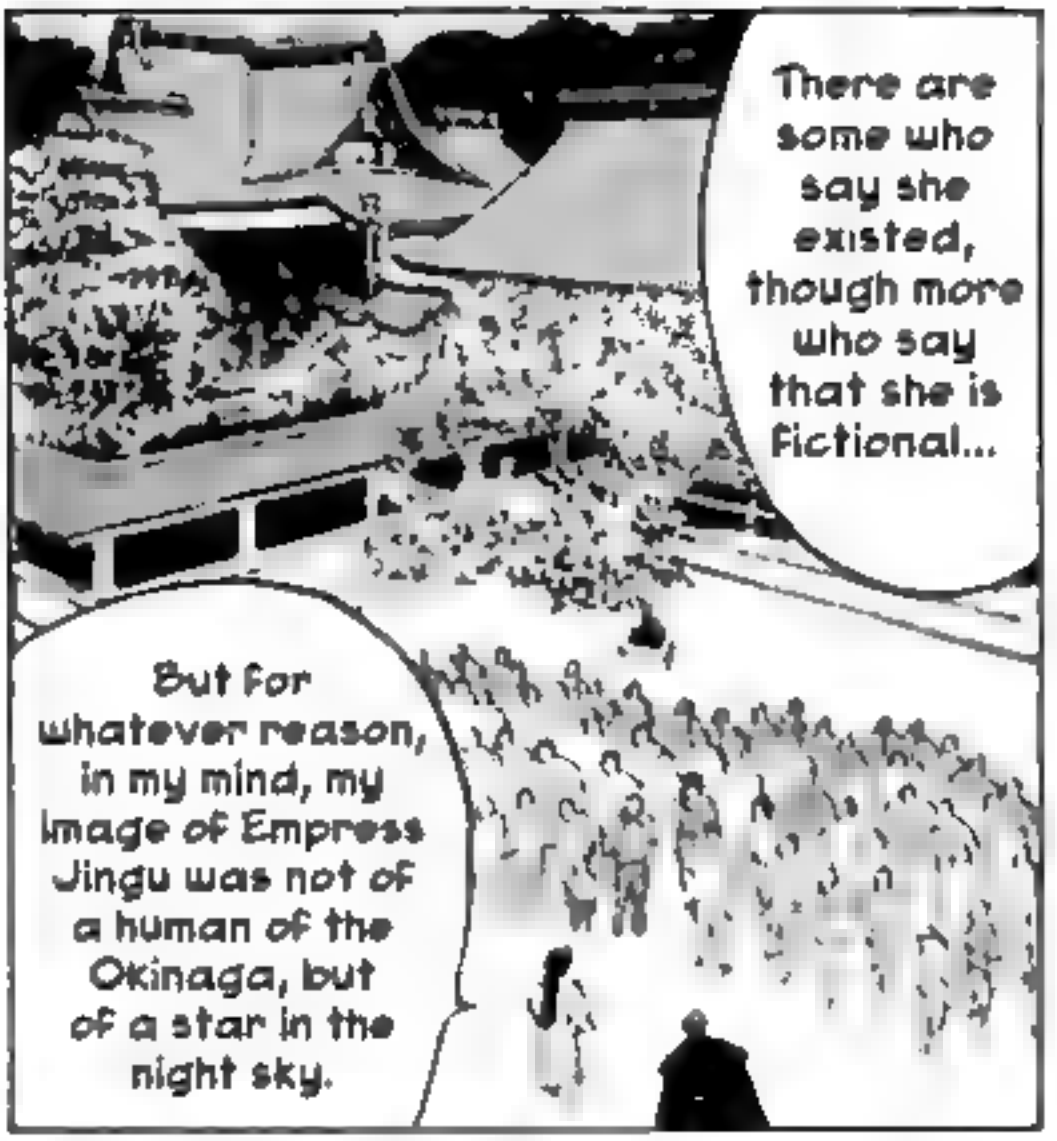

And I am very grateful and proud that we have continued to keep the flames of our steelworks burning, thanks to all of you.

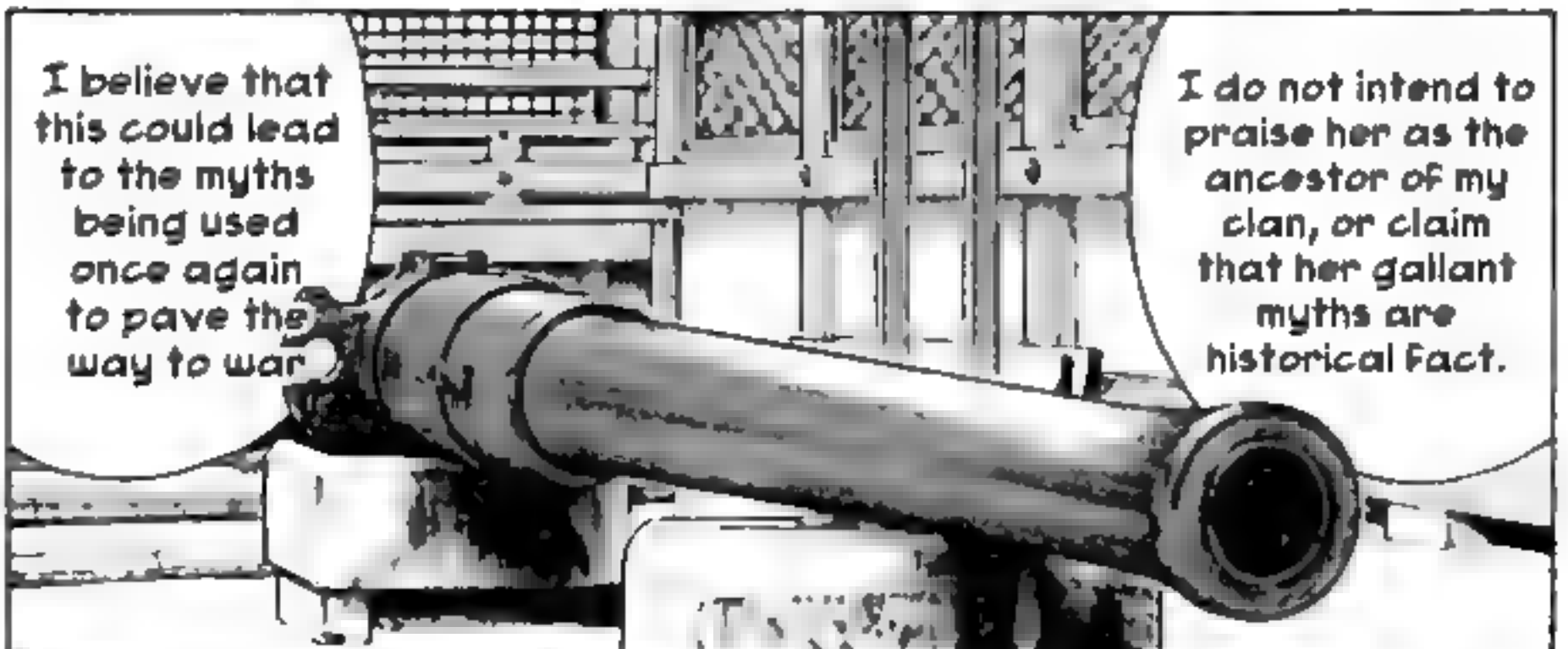

As I am proud to have an orphanage where I can take children in and raise them, regardless of their nationality...


Another pride of mine is in the ancestor of the Okinaga Clan, Okinaga Tarashi-hime... Empress Jingu.


.....




There are some who say she existed, though more who say that she is fictional...
But for whatever reason, in my mind, my image of Empress Jingu was not of a human of the Okinaga, but of a star in the night sky.


I believe that this could lead to the myths being used once again to pave the way to war
I do not intend to praise her as the ancestor of my clan, or claim that her gallant myths are historical fact.


I believe that if I can prove that they are all legends tied to the constellations, there will be no way they can be used for malicious purposes!
As I said to Professor Munakata in Nagahama,
I want to keep the myths as myths.







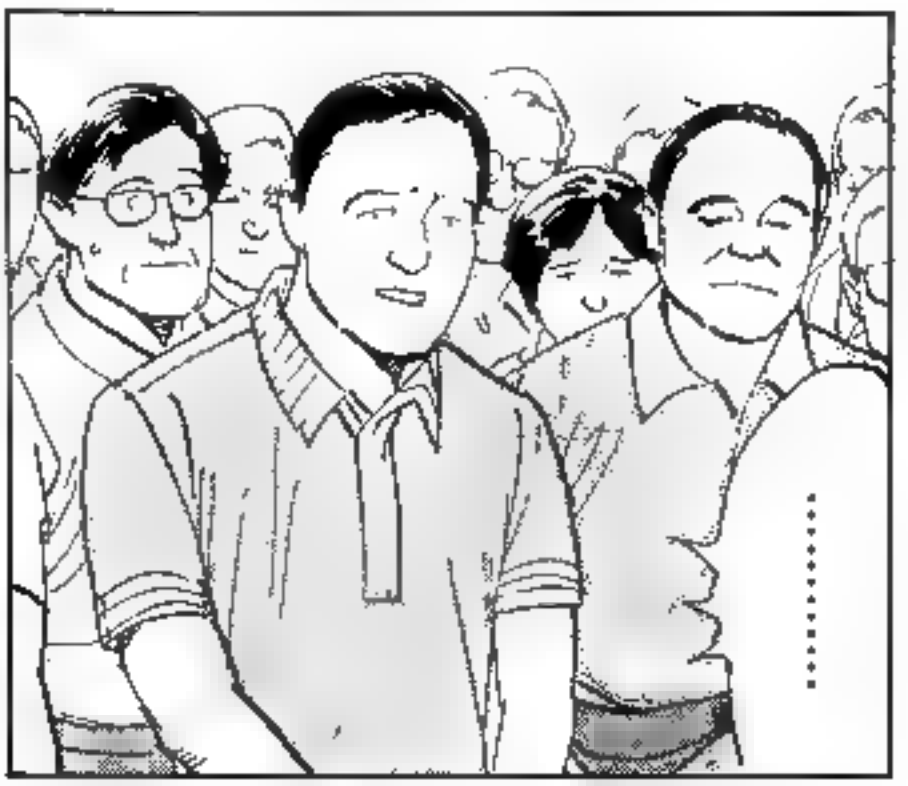


I believed that just as the seaFolk across the world were connected by the starry sky and the sea long ago, that myths could bring about Friendships between nations.

I wanted Empress Jingu = Cassiopeia to shine as a symbol of this belief...!!

My tendency to overreact has wasted Professor Munakata's time and yours. You have my apologies...





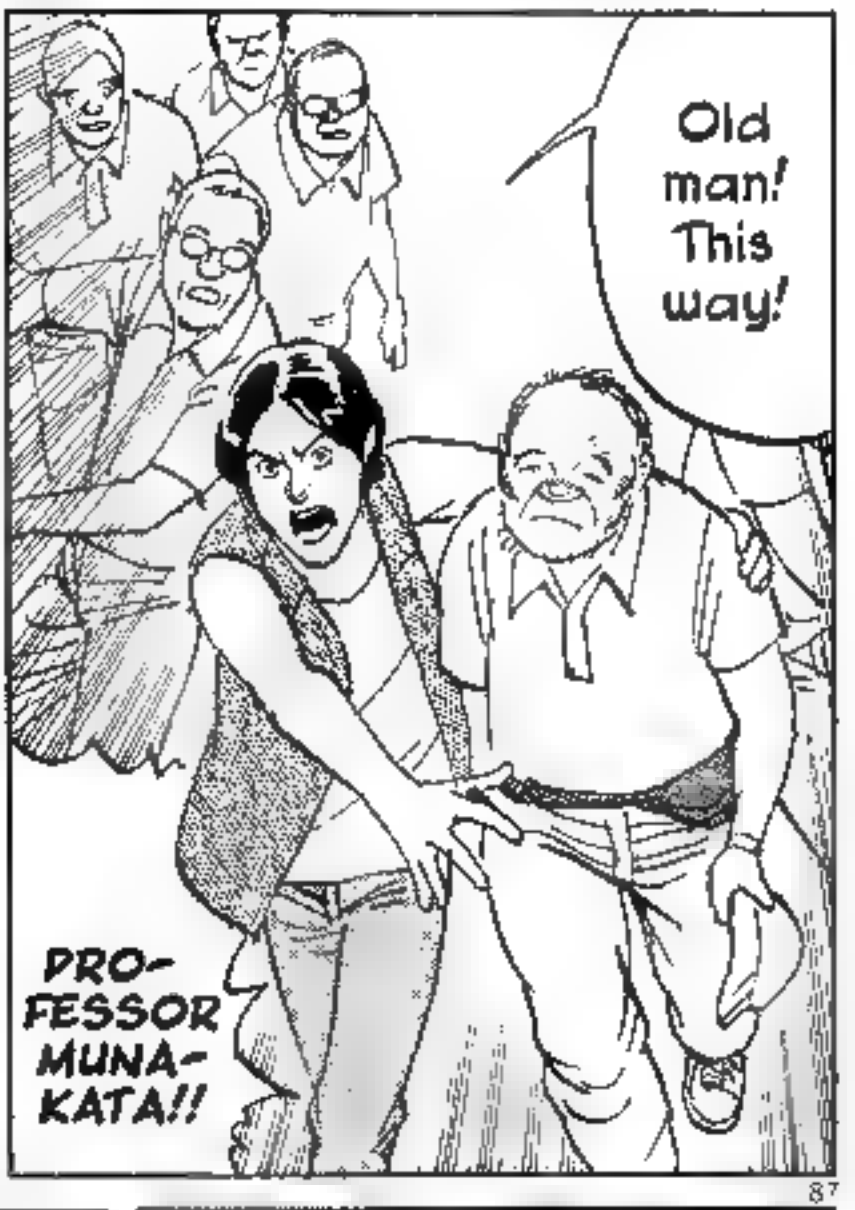






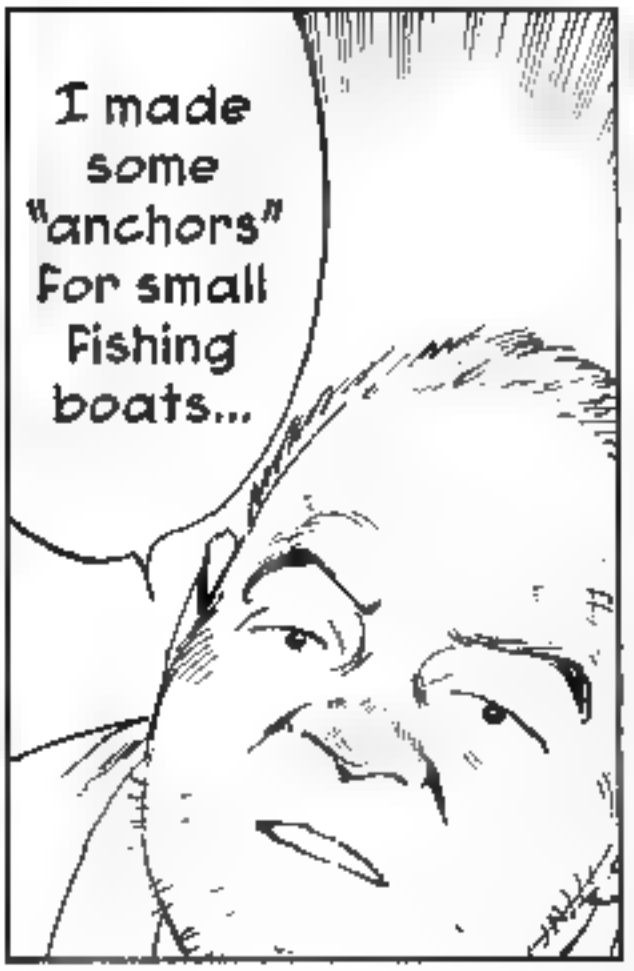


This old man's a veteran at the factory.
?


Old man! This way!
PRO-FESSOR MUNA-KATA!!






I made some "anchors" For small Fishing boats...


Before he started working For us, he was in Fukui, work-ing at an iron casting fac-tory. When he was there...

that anchors used to be called "tarashi"...

And I heard from the old fishers I got to know...

82

IS THAT TRUE!? THEY REALLY WERE CALLED "TARA-SHI"!?

Y...Yes. I think it was because they hang off the ship...

When you were talking about Okinaga Tarashi-hime, I remembered that this topic came up when I was talking to this old man before...

THAT'S THE CON-NEC-TION!!

MS. OKINAGA, "THE ANCHOR"! THE ANSWER WAS RIGHT THERE TO BEGIN WITH!!

THE JAPANESE CALLED CASSIO-PEIA "THE ANCHOR"!

Before they used "anchors" made of iron, they made "anchors" out of wood and stone. And because Cassiopeia was reminiscent of their shape, it was called The Anchor...!!

Ahhh ...

THEN OKINAGA TARASHI-HIME AND OTARASHI-HIME REPRE-SENTED THE GIANT ANCHOR OF THE HEAVENS!!

And if children were called "tarashi" ...

Empress Jingu was Cassiopeia!

A goddess born completely out of the mythology of the constellations!

There are theories about the meaning of "Tarashi", from "sufficient", to "illuminating", but no established theory

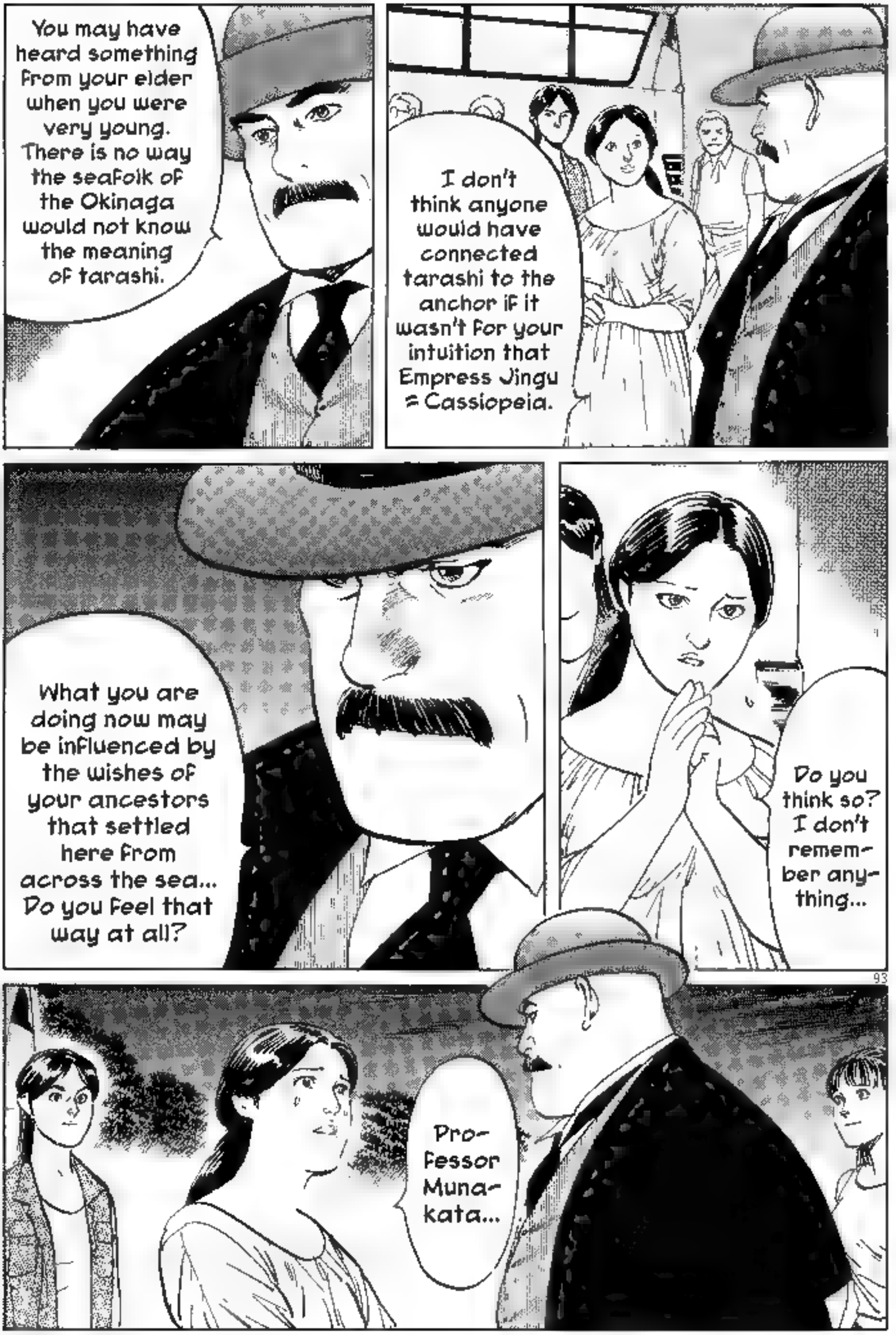
The Chinese "Book of Sui" states that in Kai-Huang year 20 (600 CE), "There is a king of Wa, whose surname is Ame, and whose given name is Tarishihiko"

This represents that the title of the Emperor of the time was "Ametarashihiko".

In China, Polaris represented the Heavenly Emperor, and was a symbol of the Emperor. It would not have been strange for the title of the Japanese emperor to include Ametarashi, the Heavenly Anchor... that is, Cassiopeia.

During the compilation of Japanese mythology, the legend of Okinaga Tarashihime may have been inserted so that their bloodline would be reflected long before that.

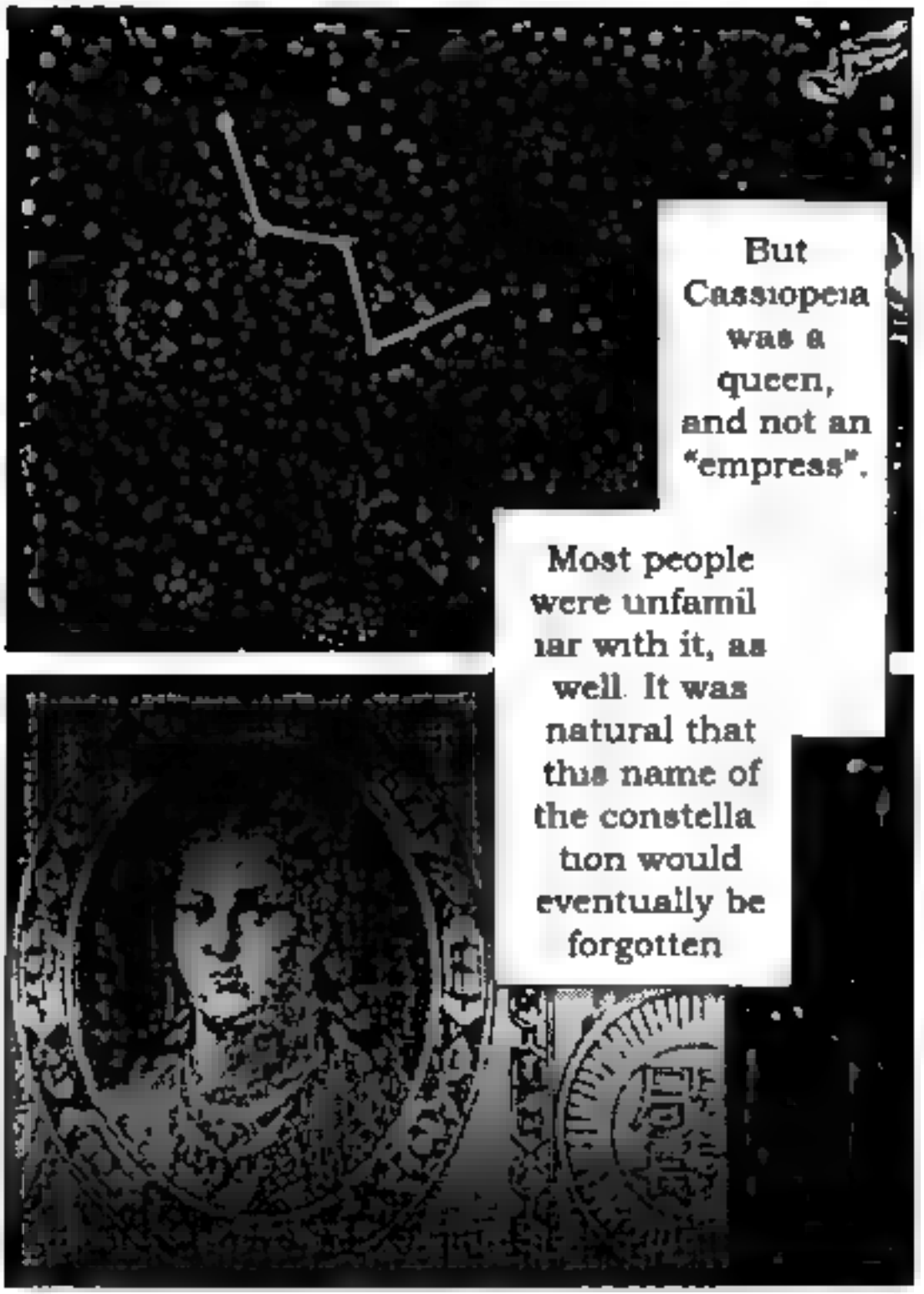
Ever since the reign of Emperor Keitai, who supposedly came from the Okinaga Clan of Omi, in the 6th Century, the age of the "Okinaga Court" began.


You may have heard something from your elder when you were very young. There is no way the seaFolk of the Okinaga would not know the meaning of tarashi.
I don't think anyone would have connected tarashi to the anchor if it wasn't for your intuition that Empress Jingu = Cassiopeia.
What you are doing now may be influenced by the wishes of your ancestors that settled here from across the sea... Do you feel that way at all?
Do you think so? I don't remember anything...
93
Professor Munakata...


You have my thanks as well. Take care, Ha-neul.

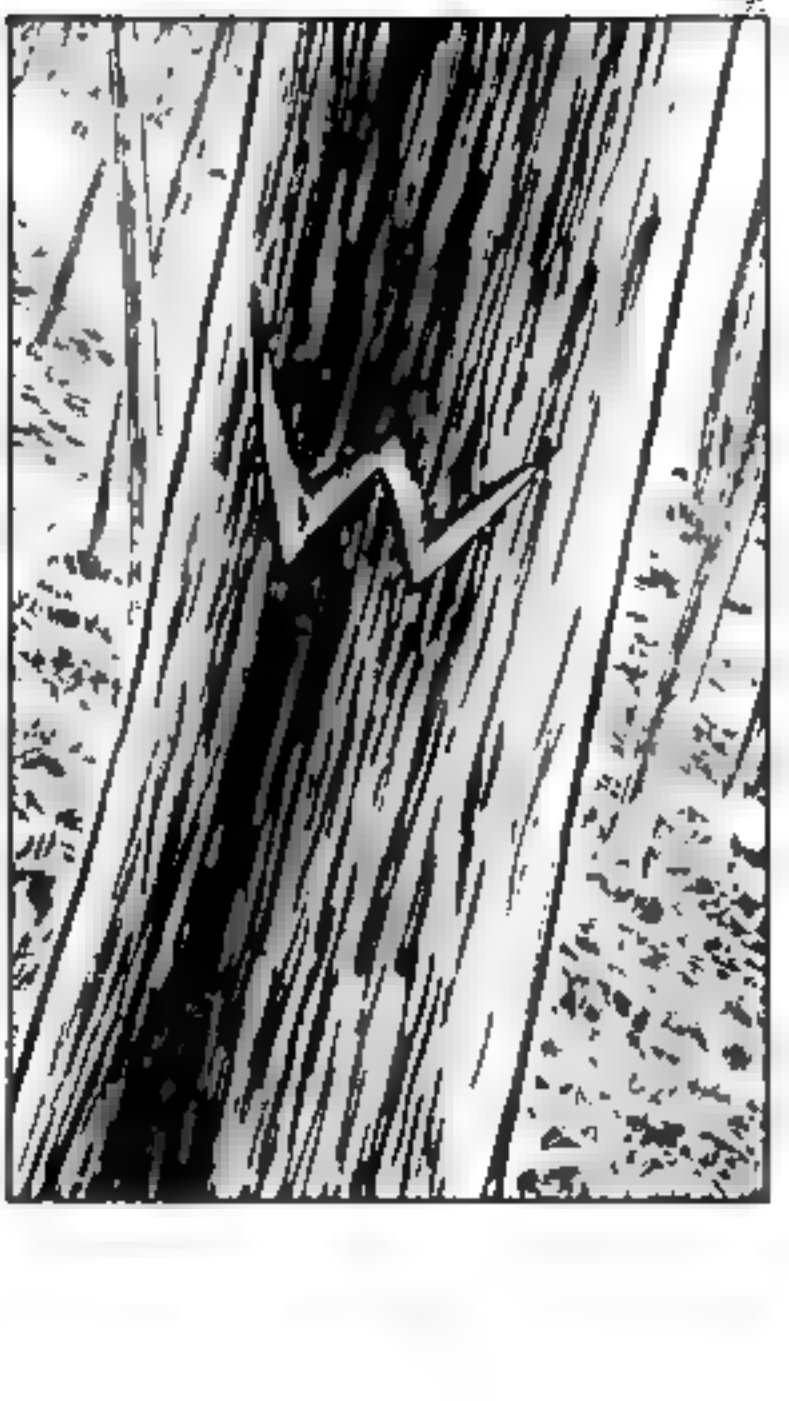

Let's go, Omoni.
Thank you, Pro-fessor ...

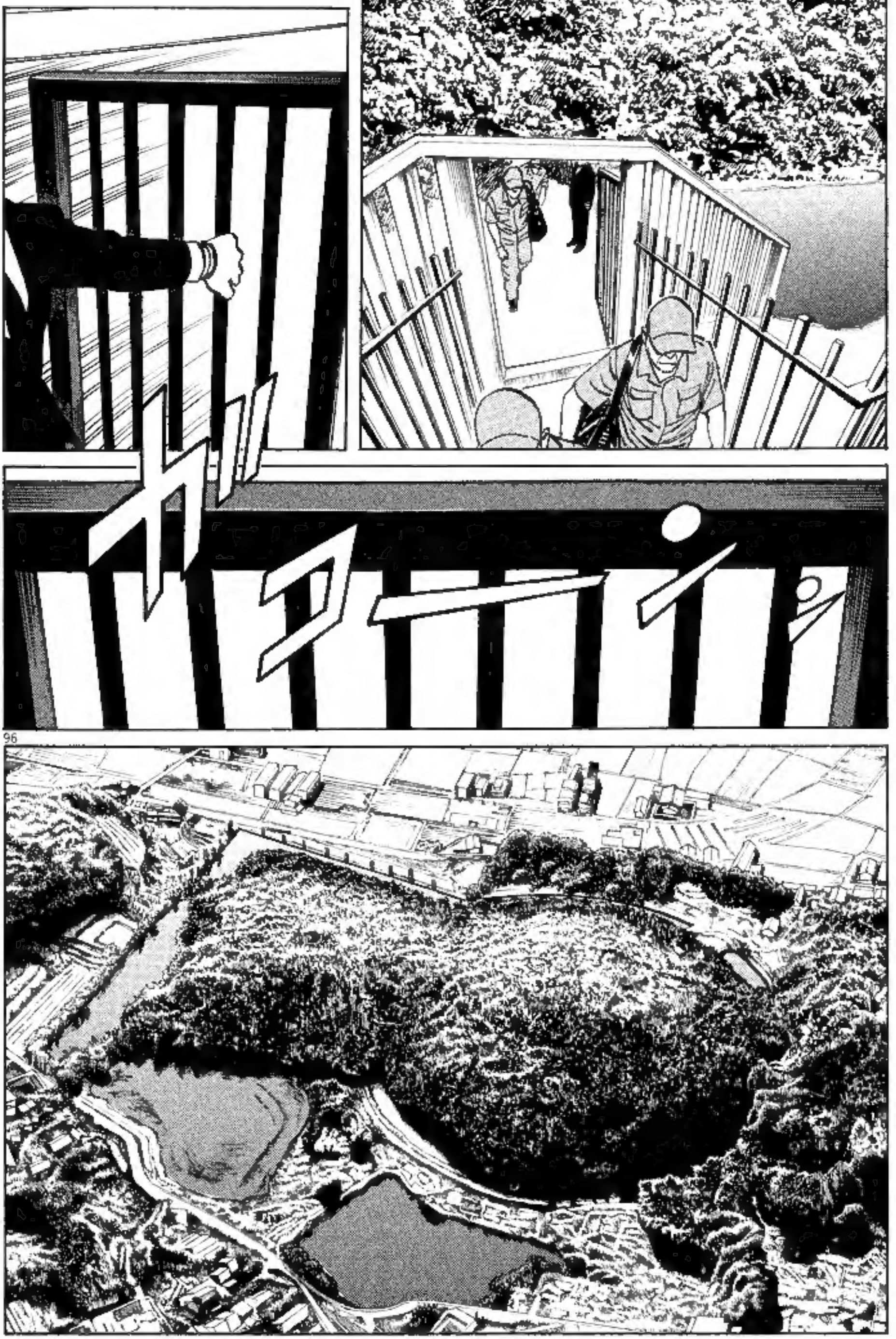



But Cassiopeia was a queen, and not an "empress".
Most people were unfamil iar with it, as well. It was natural that thus name of the constella tion would eventually be forgotten


In the Meiji Period, this constellation was called "The Em- press", to coincide with Greek mythology.









The Case Records of Professor Munakata – Collection 9 END

これらの作品はフィクションです。
実在の団体・人物・事件などには
一切関係ありません。

◎初出一覧◎

**鎮神**

『ビッグコミック』2007年12月10日号、12月25日号、2008年1月10日号、1月25日号

◆

**雁風呂**

『ビッグコミック』2007年11月25日号

◆

**女帝星座**

『ビッグコミック』2008年4月25日号、5月10日号、5月25日号、6月10日号

◎参考資料・協力◎

「ヨーロッパ古層の異人たち―祝祭と信仰」芳賀日出男・著（東京書籍）／「日本の祭り 東北・北海道」千葉克介、高橋真一・著（講談社）
『太陽』1973年4月号（平凡社）〔写真所蔵：北海道大学植物園〕／『海から見た日本文化』北構保男・著（小学館）
『訪れる神々―神・鬼・モノ・異人―』諏訪春雄、川村 湊・編（雄山閣出版）／『別冊 歴史と旅 第四号』（秋田書店）
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BIG COMICS SPECIAL

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# THE CASE RECORDS OF PROFESSOR MUNAKATA

## CHAPTER 28

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